

KITCHEN SINK
\$1.50
ENTERPRISES

THE

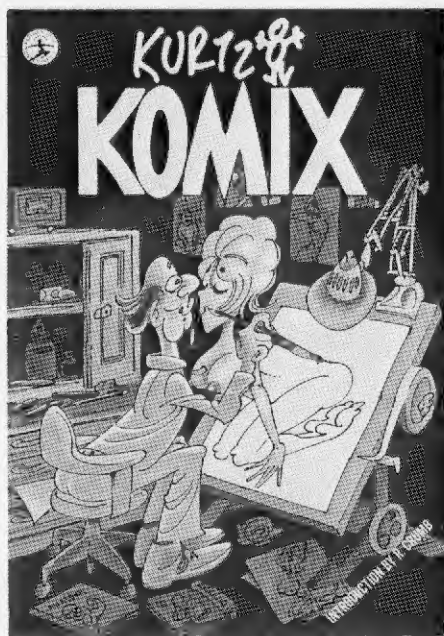
SPIRIT

No. 17

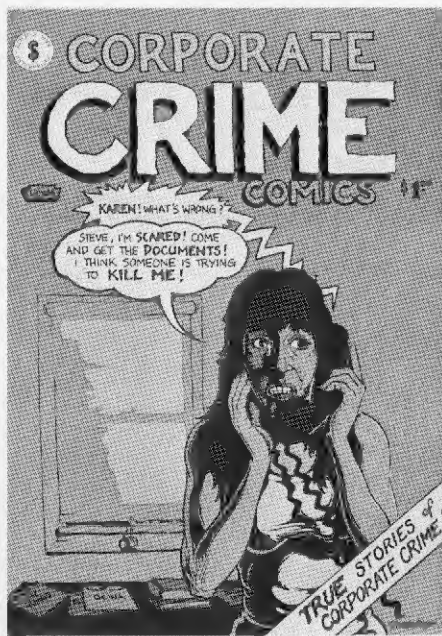
By
Will
Eisner



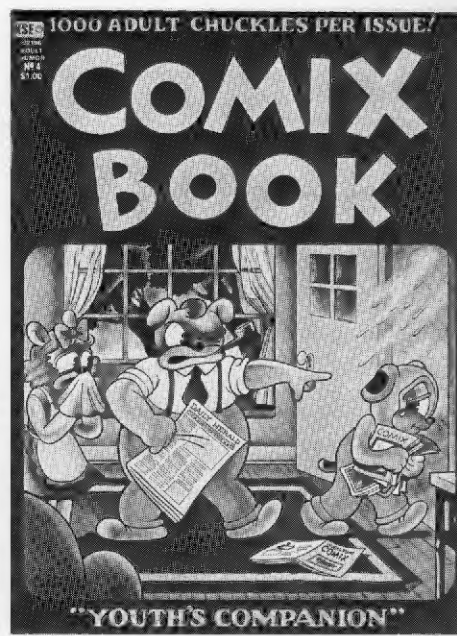
Other titles from the Kitchen Sink presses. . .



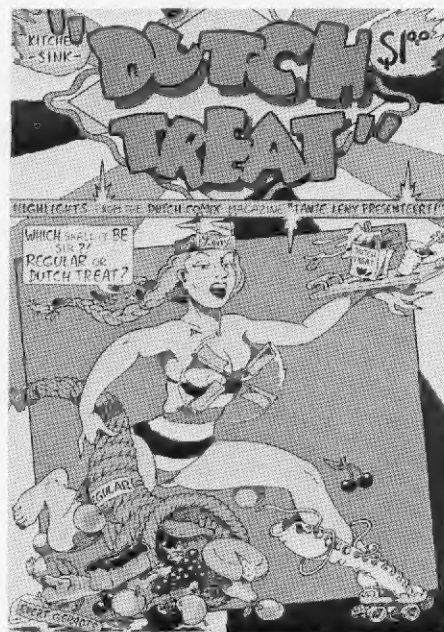
KURTZMAN KOMIX. A collection of early madcap pages by **Harvey Kurtzman**, the father-in-law of underground comix. Includes an introduction by Kurtzman discovery **Robert Crumb**. \$1.



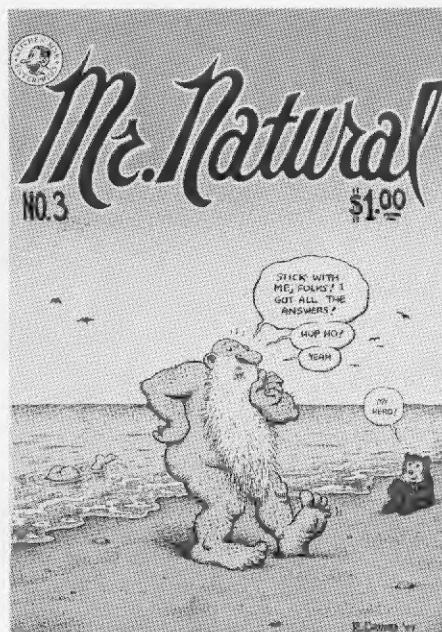
CORPORATE CRIME. A new kind of comic book. It entertains by its very nature, yet it imparts knowledge of the deadliest kind: stories of actual white collar crimes that affect all of us daily, both directly and indirectly. \$1.



COMIX BOOK No. 4. The bastard child of a brief affair between Marvel Comics and Underground Comix. This issue and No. 5 were published after the break-up. Only \$1.



DUTCH TREAT. Tiny Holland is extremely active in the production of what we call underground comix. This collection provides a glimpse of the most active of our Dutch counterparts. \$1.

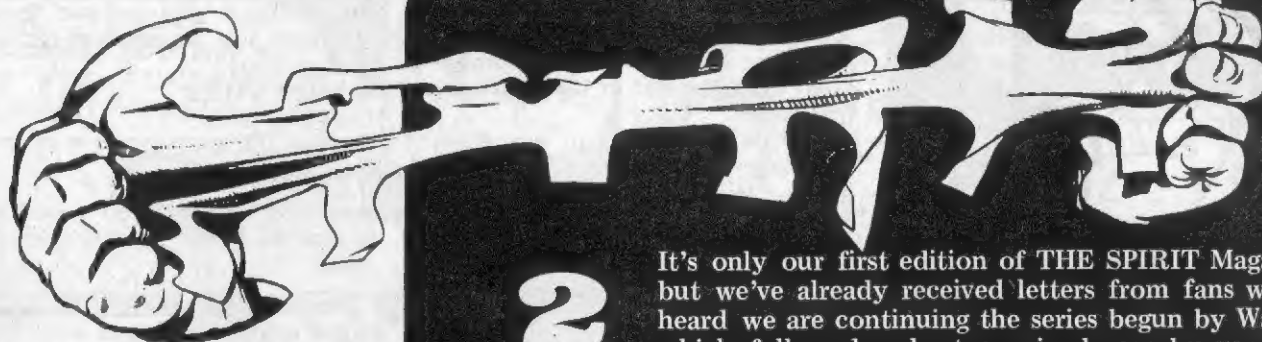


MR. NATURAL No. 3. The latest, and perhaps last collection, of one of **Robert Crumb's** most famous characters. A forty-four page book on white paper, not newsprint. And only a buck.



SNARF No. 3. Includes cover by **Will Eisner** (the Spirit batters his way into Krupp's subterranean headquarters.) Other contributions by **Poplaski**, **Loft**, **Gerads**, and **Kitchen**. Just 75¢ retail.

These are but a few of the books in our line-up. Look for these at your favorite comix outlet. If your dealer does not carry these titles, plead, threaten, harass, and implore. If all fails, you may order directly from us. (See inside back cover.)



The Spirit No.17 Winter 1977

Editor and Publisher
DENIS KITCHEN

Editor-in-Chief
WILL EISNER

Circulation
MICHAEL JACOBI

Cover Coloring
PETER POPLASKI

Welcome back, SPIRIT Fans!
Several years ago we launched an experiment, publishing Will Eisner's SPIRIT in "underground" format. The experiment was so successful that Eisner arranged for Warren Magazines to publish his stories in a larger format, distributed on a national scale.

Seventeen issues later we once again have the rights to THE SPIRIT. We will continue publishing stories never before reprinted, on a quarterly basis. In addition, we are adding new features, virtually eliminating the ad pages, and upgrading the quality of the paper. We hope you like the differences and will continue to support THE SPIRIT. Your comments are always welcome.

2

It's only our first edition of THE SPIRIT Magazine, but we've already received letters from fans who've heard we are continuing the series begun by Warren, which followed a shorter series begun by us. Confused?

3

A new "jam" page which we hope to feature each issue: a collaboration between Will Eisner and Denis Kitchen.

4

A primer for adults, containing instructive and pleasant little moral tales. The story of "Rat-Tat, the Toy Machine Gun."

11

Crime fighting isn't necessarily a profit-making business. In order to make ends meet, THE SPIRIT accepts an assignment that sends him, incognito, to distant Africa.

18

Still in Africa, THE SPIRIT uncovers intrigue, murder, and an alligator that talks.

25

THE SPIRIT decides to take a week off and fish at Cape Cod. And who do you suppose is also at Cape Cod that week?

32

LADY LUCK was a regular feature in the original newspaper SPIRIT Sections, along with MR. MYSTIC, and of course THE SPIRIT. LADY LUCK was written and drawn by longtime Eisner associate Klaus Nordling, from 1942-47.

36

Darling O'Shea invites THE SPIRIT and Dolan to spend a weekend at her mountain resort. Ellen accompanies him and discovers Darling's new governess is... Sand Saref!

43

Carrion tries to reduce THE SPIRIT's effectiveness by inducing him to marry Ellen Dolan... and then falls in love with Ellen himself!

50

It's Carrion again, accompanied by his brilliant nephew, Ghoul, who contacts men from Mars. Nobody takes him seriously except you-know-who.



A few letters came in before we even published this issue, so we are beginning a letters page from the start. We encourage you to send your comments and suggestions to us. . .

How exciting to hear that The Spirit will soon be with us again! As we old Spirit buffs know, nobody can top Will Eisner when it comes to art, story, graphics, and characters (what else is there?).

When The Spirit ceased being published by Warren I assumed that was the end. But usually reliable sources tell me that you are reviving it again. If that's true I hope you apply your customary high standards, good paper, etc. Your discriminating readers do appreciate it!

FLO STEINBERG

321 E. 25th

New York, NY 10010

"Discriminating readers" will recall that Flo was "Fabulous Flo," Stan Lee's fabled assistant during Marvel's most creative era.

I have all sixteen of the Warren Spirits, both undergrounds, and many original newspaper sections. I heard you guys were going to continue the magazine. Can I make a suggestion? Keep the numbering system consistent. It's a small thing, but a real convenience for hardcore collectors. Thanks!

DALE RILEY

7900 Green Tree Rd.

Milwaukee, WI 53223

As you can see, Dale, we are going to continue the numbering begun by Warren. Thanks for your support.

When I first heard that Krupp was planning on bringing back The Spirit in a regularly published magazine I was overjoyed. Ever since Warren cancelled their magazine we Spirit fans have frantically searched the stands for a substitute. But what is as good as The Spirit? Years later we finally found the answer. . . NOTHING!

Your readers may be interested to know that I have acquired the rights to do a new "underground" format Betty Boop Magazine and plan to bring it out this winter. All characters, art,

and story lines will be just like the Fleischers would have wanted. In addition we have added a much underrated Felix the Cat to the magazine's line-up.

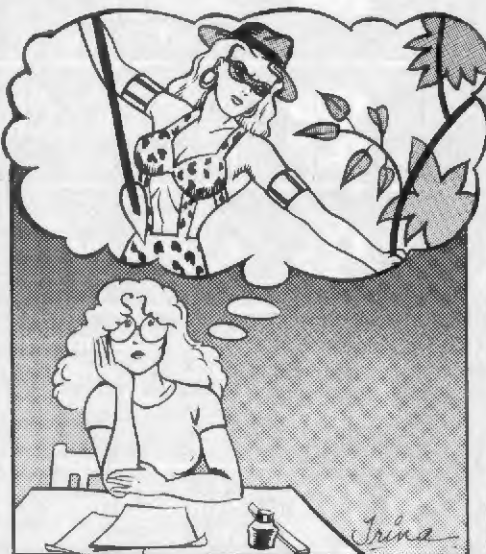
Best of luck with your new Spirit magazine, and to coin an overused phrase, "May the sales be with you!"

BART BUSH

Down Memory Lane

1108 W. Main

Norman, Okla. 73069



The Spirit back! And published by Krupp once again! I was heartbroken when Warren discontinued it.

What a way to collect Spirit reprints, the originals of which go for a fortune at comic conventions.

Please print as many as you can featuring Eisner's wonderful good/bad girls. Nobody did 'em like Eisner—all Lauren Bacall they were, except Silk Satin, whom I'm convinced was Ingrid Bergman—all true film noir on paper.

Any man who created The Spirit, and Sheena too, has got to be a wonderful fellow. (And, as for creating Sheena, the same goes for you!)

TRINA ROBBINS

1982 15th St.

San Francisco, CA 94114

Trina refers to the publisher's daughter, named after Eisner's Jungle Queen. And thanks for sending us the self portrait and hybrid fantasy!

As a long time fan and dealer of all your fine productions, I'm pleased to hear that Krupp will be publishing The Spirit magazine. Your concern with substance and quality have long been evidenced in all your products. The Spirit should benefit from your touch, as well as being a feather in your hat.

I'll be looking forward to future Spirit magazines as well as your superior series of comix, buttons, cards, etc.

Rhode Island will continue to support your fine organization for many years to come!

SANDY CUTLER

The Poster Shop

132 Pine Hill Ave.

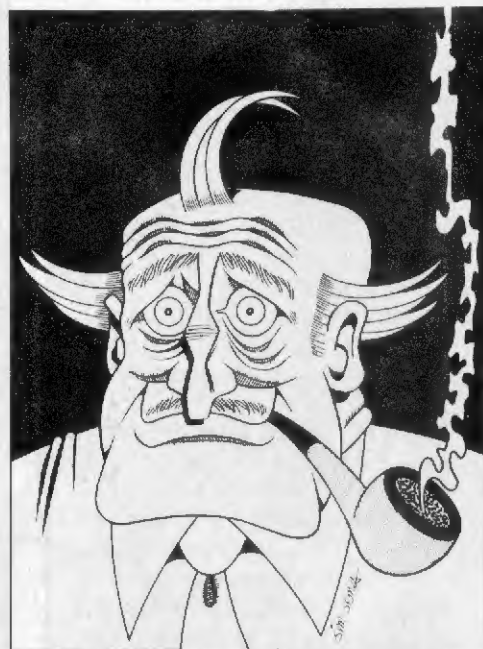
Johnston, R.I. 02919

Jeez. . . if we could only inspire such loyalty from the OTHER forty-nine states.

Anyone that has ever tried to draw or just enjoyed looking at comic books is a fan of Will Eisner! He is one of the real geniuses of the comics medium.

Word that you're continuing The Spirit magazine is great news! I heard you are reprinting the Will Elder/Harvey Kurtzman "Goodman Beaver" stories in 1978. If so, great news twice!

Somewhere in the mountains of stuff I call my files, I have one or two copies of The Spirit that you guys published. You were stopped when Warren published his version. Sometime for historical purposes I'd love to see Eisner's only real failure reprinted: his one issue of Wonderman. But I'm sure the originals are long gone!



Cartooning is my hobby. Perhaps you can use the enclosed. . .

JIM JONES

744 Pomelo Drive

Vista, CA 92083

Thanks, Jim. If any other readers want to send their comments or drawings, we'll fit in what we can.

Send all correspondence to:

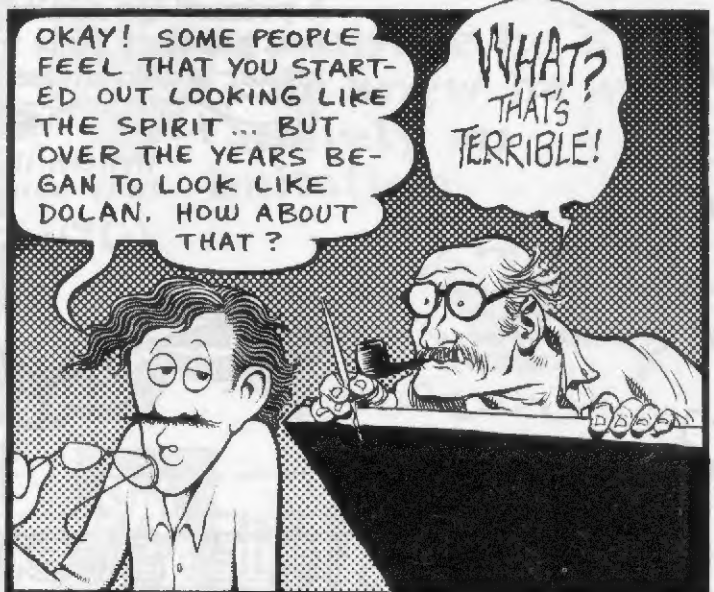
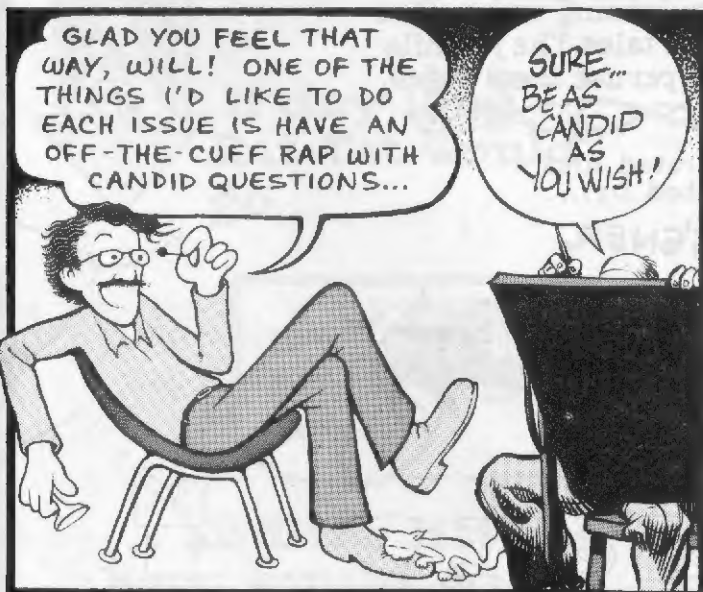
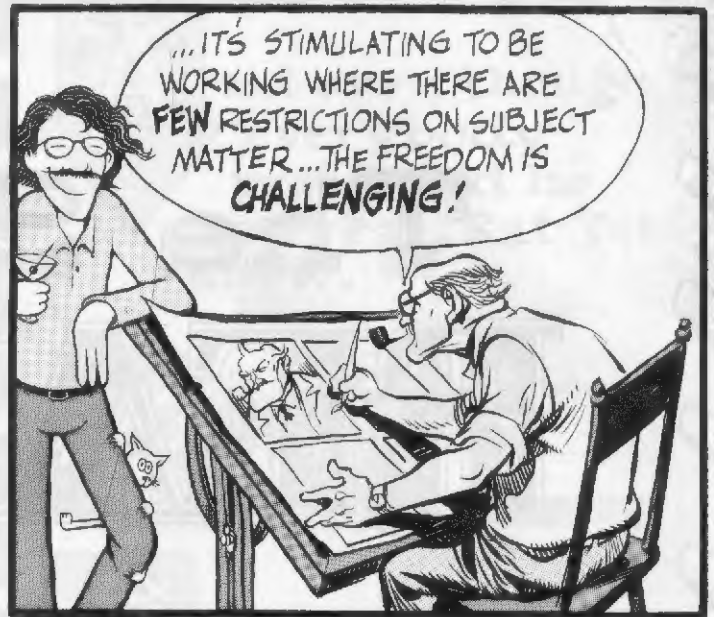
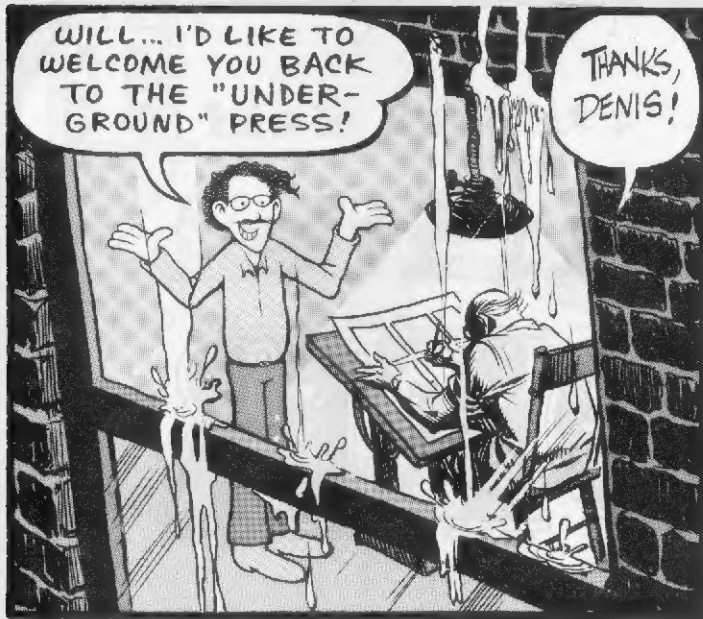
THE SPIRIT

P.O. Box 7

Princeton, Wis. 54968

"The Interview"

©1977 BY WILF EISNER and Denis Kitchen



The Spirit's READER

A primer for adults, containing instructive
and pleasant little moral tales. The juvenile
reader is also invited to peruse these pages.

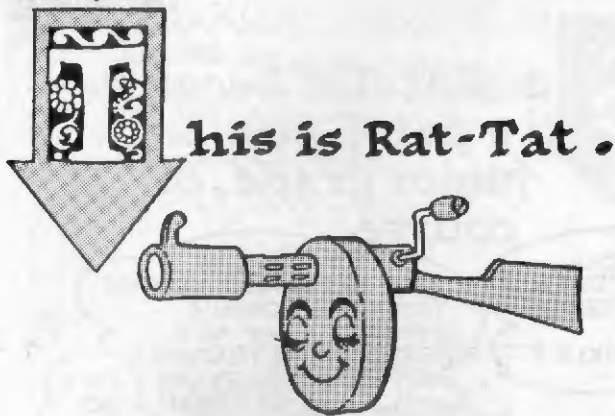


Written, illustrated, and
fully annotated by....

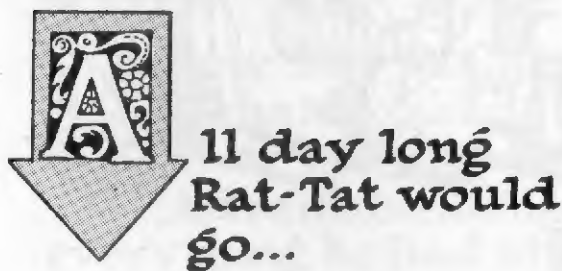
WILL EYSNER



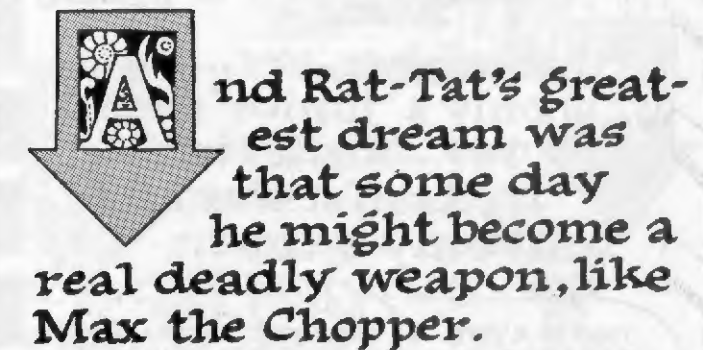
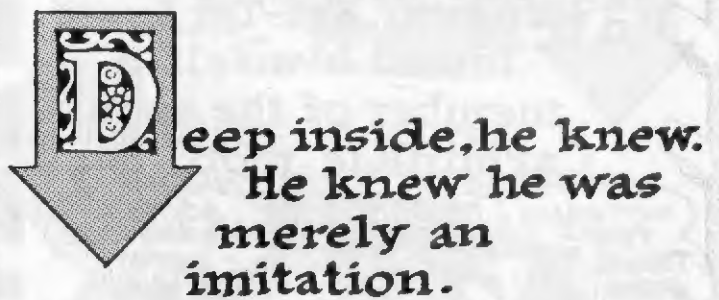
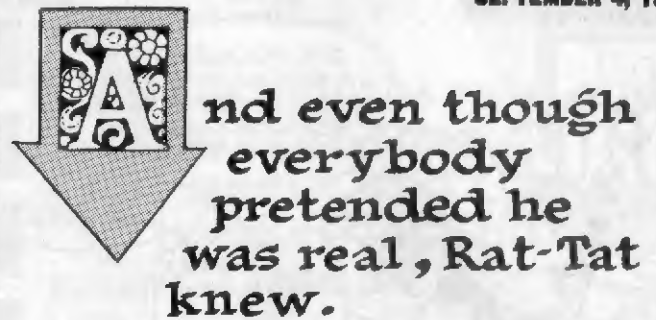
THE STORY OF RAT-TAT THE TOY MACHINE-GUN



Rat-Tat is a toy machine gun.

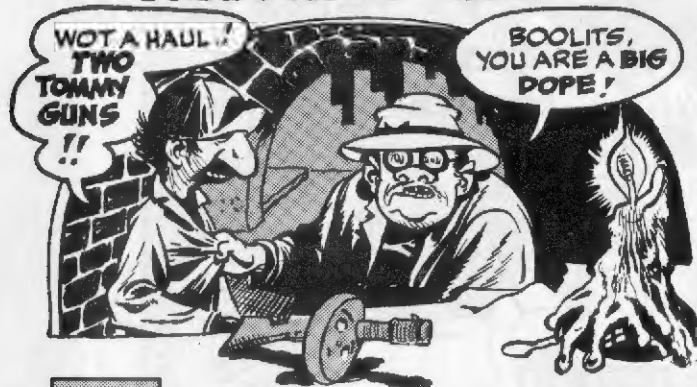


... and the little boys would go...





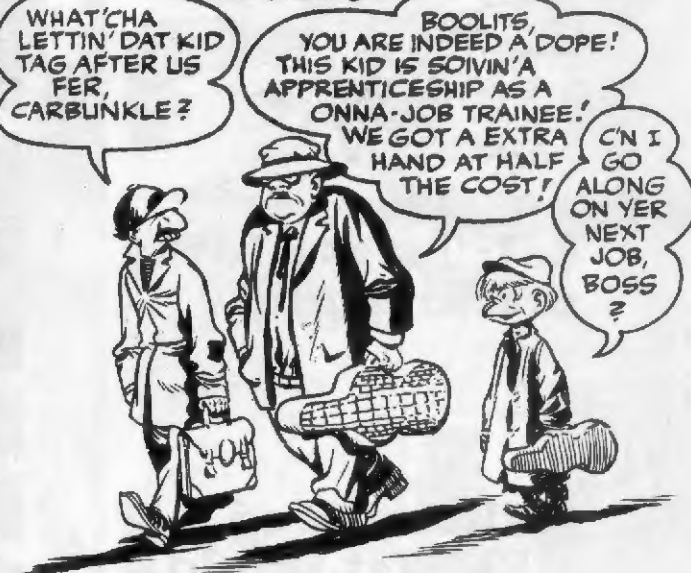
And in the confusion, Rat-Tat found himself a member of the awful Carbunkle mob.



A member, yes... but only a 'junior' member... for, let us face it, Rat-Tat was after all only a toy!



So Rat-Tat became a gang-gun... junior grade, of course.



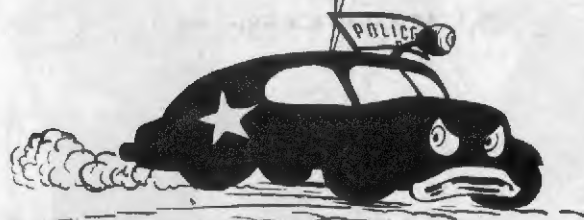
Well, sir... the next night ...



Oh dear, oh dear...



CALLING ALL CARS ... CALLING
ALL CARS ... BE ON THE LOOKOUT
FOR THE CARBUNKLE MOB...
WANTED FOR ROBBING THE
46TH NATIONAL BANK.



N

ow Rat-Tat knew
what it meant to
be hunted.

Adventure, danger...
everything he had always
longed for was now his.



But he was scared !



T

hrough the rain and
storm, through the
smoke and flame
ran Rat-Tat and the
little kid.



H

iding in alleys,
cowering in sewers..
this was not at all
the kind of
life he had
expected.



T

hat night, two
broken-hearted
criminals huddled
together and cried each
other to sleep.



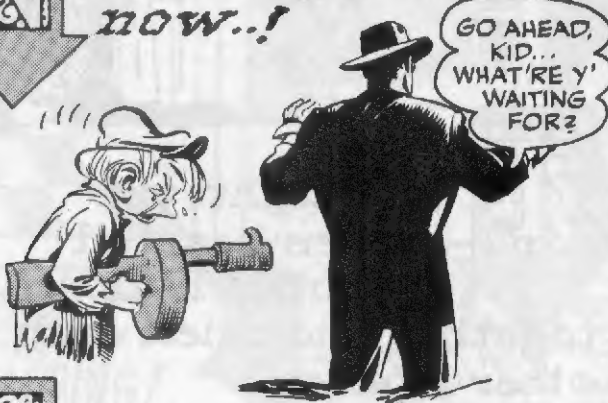
So, the next night, Rat-Tat found himself at the secret hideout... when all of a sudden...



Golly gee! Do you know who it was?



Now, thought Rat-Tat, now..!



But he couldn't..he just couldn't.



Well, sir...at that moment... **BANG**



Boolits returned..and..well..some simply awful things happened.



Poor Rat-Tat...he could only watch..



And hope for the best..which was none too good.



Now everything was spoiled... the bad Carbunkle boys were getting even worse.



Poor Rat-Tat was simply at his wits' end. He just didn't know what to do.



Wait... wait a moment... the Spirit was getting up.



Oh dear... yes... he is up and fighting!



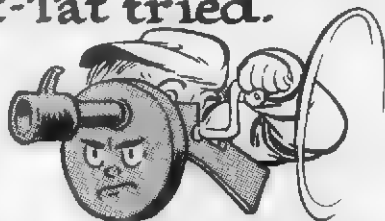
Poor Rat-Tat worried only harder.



If only there were something he could do... if only he were real!



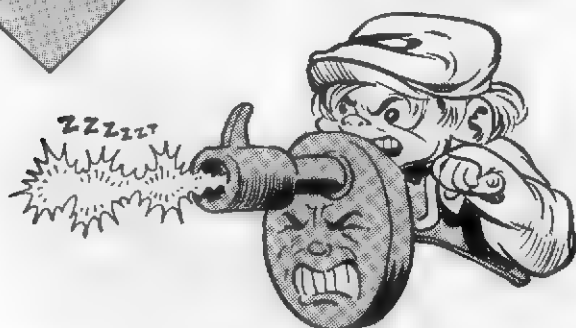
With every ounce of energy in his plastic body, Rat-Tat tried.



And tried...



And **TRIED!**



And much to everyone's surprise (including Rat-Tat's)



When the flames were out...



And that day, Rat-Tat was as 'real' as any gun he had ever known...



... and sort of glad he was only a toy.

The END

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SPIRIT

BY
Will
EISNER

30.2
24 126.00
22 60

...SIGH... NO
MATTER HOW
WE FIGURE IT,
THIS CRIMEFIGHTING
BUSINESS COSTS
YOU \$20,000
A YEAR MORE
THAN YOU
REALIZE FROM
YOUR INHERITANCE
SPIRIT!

HELLO...TIMES ?
...I WANT TO PLACE
AN AD IN YOUR
SITUATION WANTED
COLUMN!
WANTED...DANGEROUS
ASSIGNMENT... WILL
GO ANYPLACE,
ANYWHERE, ANYTIME..
...CONTACT
THE SPIRIT,
BOX 35!

AND SO...

THE BIRDS AND BEES
THE MITES ON TREES.

CLASSIFIED AD
SITUATIONS WANTED

WANTED
DANGEROUS
ASSIGNMENT
will go
ANYPLACE
ANYWHERE

ROOMS FOR
RENT

1547 3
-976 1
570 2

246 72
42
344
24

THEY EACH HAV' A LASS
THEY CON SNOOGLE AND
SQUEEZE.... ♪ ♪

EV'RY LI'UL BOOG ♪
WA' A HOONEY T' HOOG
BOOT ME ♪ ♪

A DAY LATER...

ONE.. REPLY?
FROM WHO??

IT SAYS
"SANDY DOON"
THE FLYING
SCOTSMAN!

AND SO ...

... AND THAT'S WHY I WANT T' HIRE YE, LAD! AH'M A PLAIN SPOOKEN, COONTRY BORN, HUVIN' FEARRIN' MON! I DINNA.... I DINNA LOOK FERR THIS TROOBLE.. BOOT.. SPARTAN DIRK IS A HARRD MON!!

UH...HMMM...NOW LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT, MR. DOON!... YOU SAY THIS MAN, DIRK, IS A POLITICAL BOSS OF AN AFRICAN COLONIAL POSSESSION.

NAY! 'TIS NOO LONGER A POSSESSION YERR NOT LISTENIN' CLEARLY LAD!

IT WAS ORRRRIGINALLY A COLONY.. BOOT, AS A RESULT OF THE WAR, IT HAS BECOME AN HINDIPENDANT LITTLE COUNTRY .. THAT IS UNTIL SPARTAN DIRK TOOK OVER! NOO!.. PAY ATTENTION, LAD!

THIS DIRK.. IS... IS A BUG ON RRROAD CONSTRROOCTION... LOVES TO BULD CLEAN LONG HIGHWAYS.. HE CONTRRACTED ME T'SHIP HIM TEN BULL DOZERRS AND FLY THEM OOT T'HIM! AH BOUGHT AND PAID F'RRR THE MACHINERRY WI' M'OWN MOONEY ON HIS SAY SO...

AND NOW HE REFUSES TO PAY!

AYE! THAT HE DOES!

HAS ANYONE GONE TO SEE HIM AND DEMANDED PAYMENT?

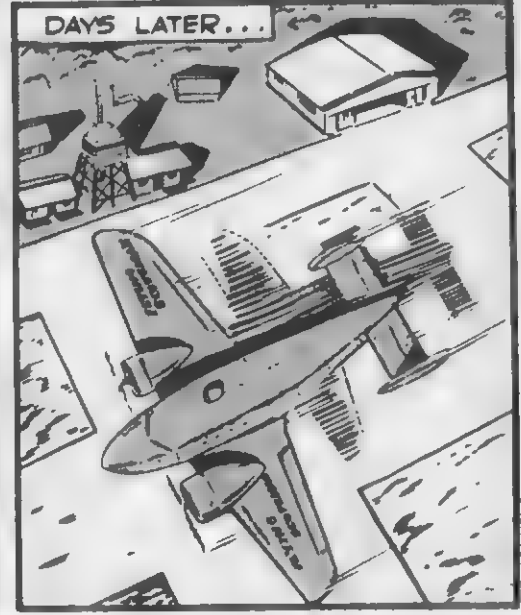
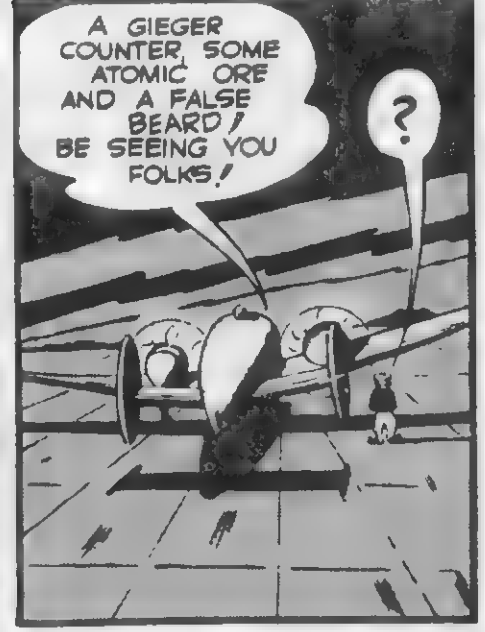
AYE! WHAT HAPPENED?

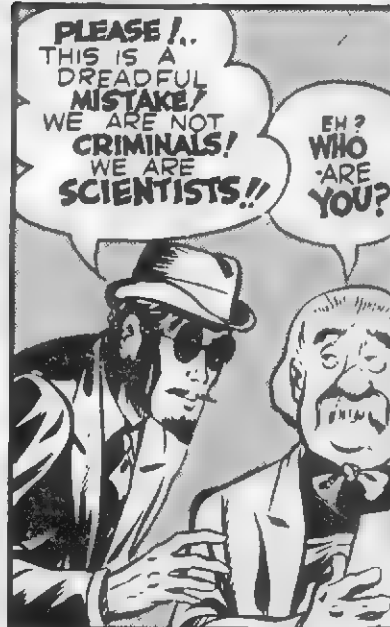
THIS!

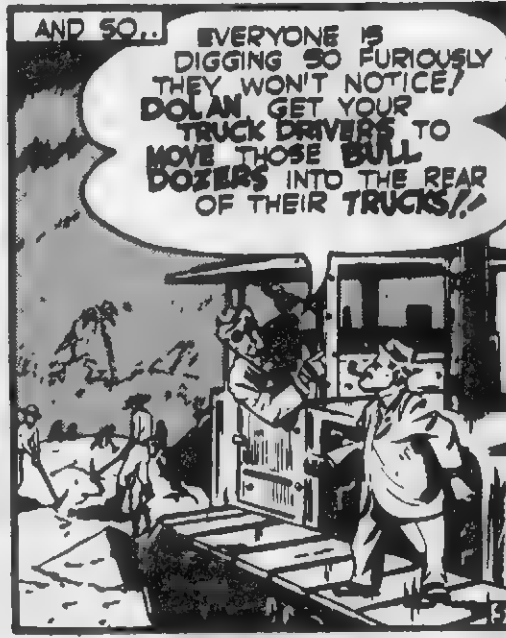
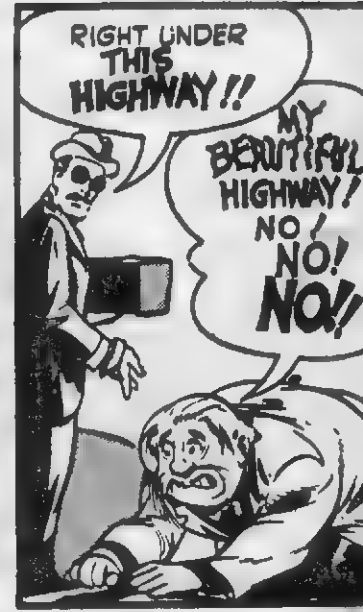
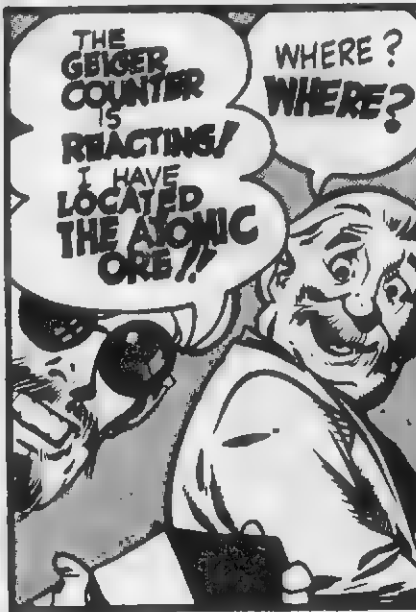
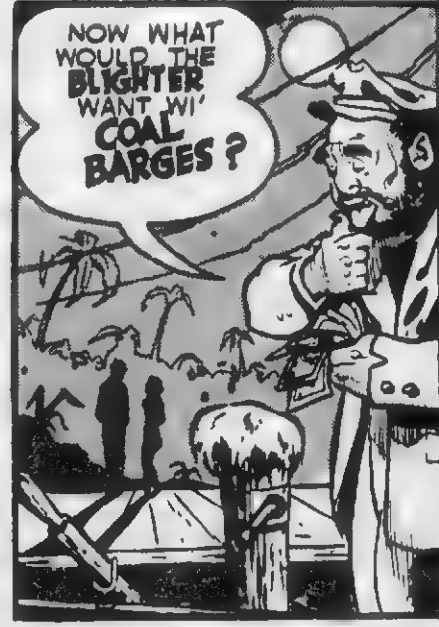
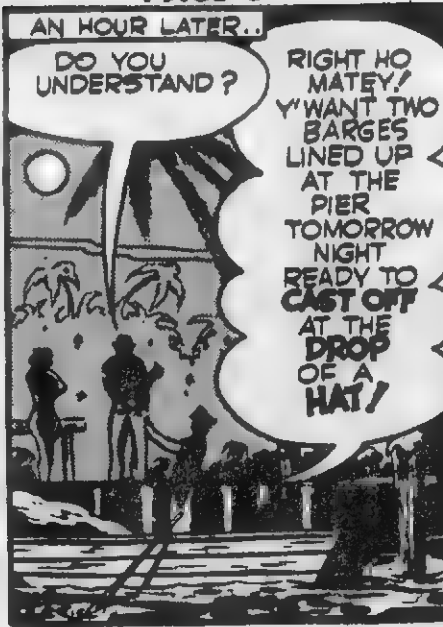
I JUST LOVE GUYS LIKE THAT! I'LL SEE ABOUT GETTING YOUR MONEY! WHEN DO I LEAVE?

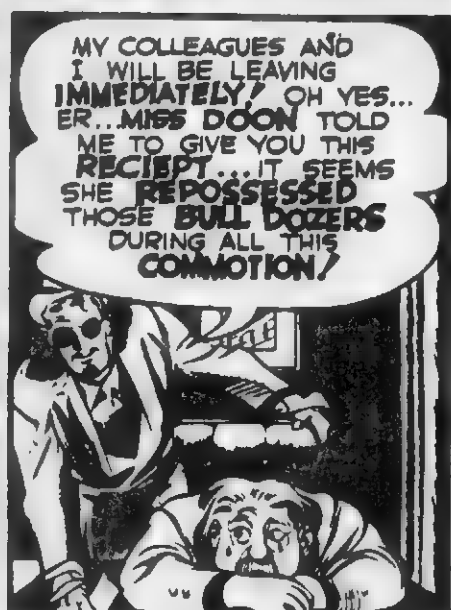
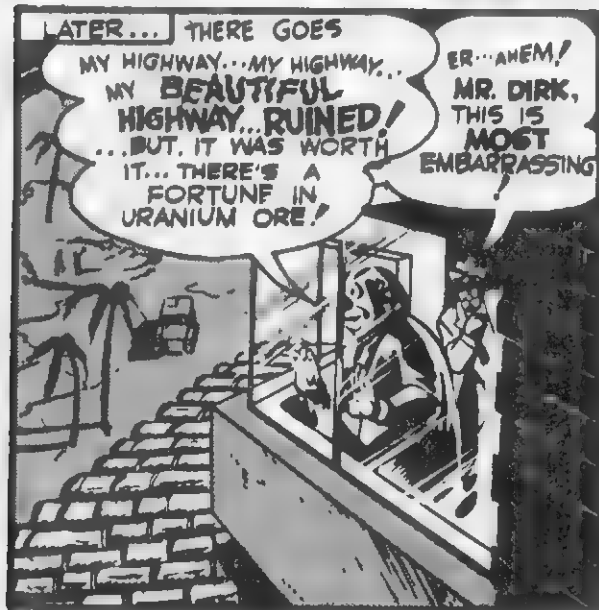
AH'LL HAE M'BEST PILOT TAKE YE RRIGHT NOO! THIS VURRY NIGHT !!

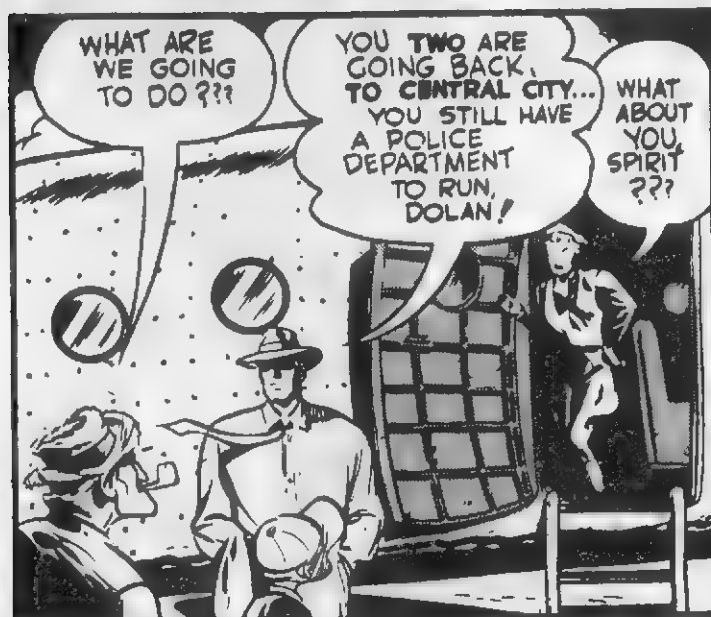
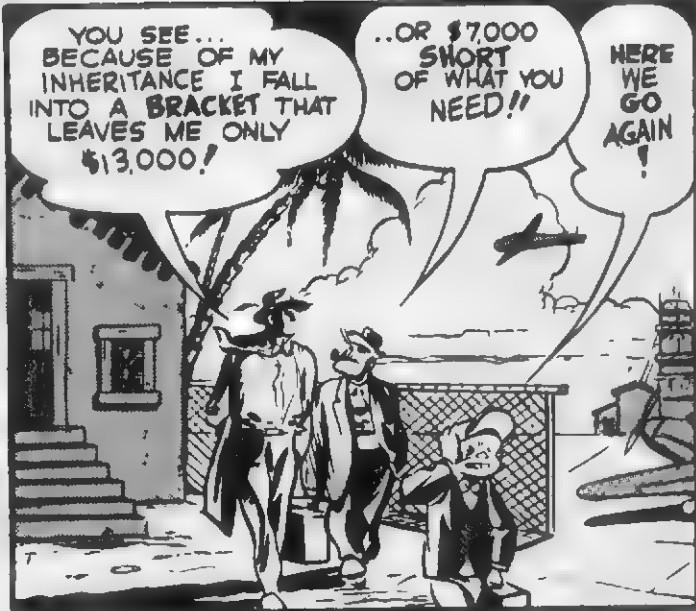
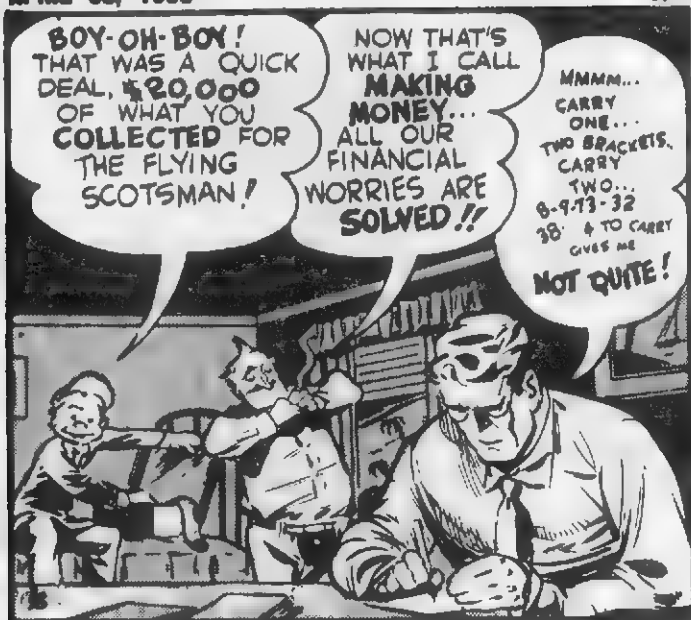
MEET ME DAUGHTERRR BRRRIGET DOON!











THE SPIRIT

BY
WILL
EISNER



Going are the
Great African
Jungles...no more
are there Primitive
Animals who have not
felt the Iron Heel
of Man's Greed...

DUH...
I AM ALEC THE
LOWLY 'GAITOR AND
I AM THE VICTIM
OF ECONOMIC
IMPERIALISM

...WHATEVER THAT MEANS ???

PULL OVER,
YA JOIK!!

KEEP TO TH'
RIGHT, STUPID!

C'MON!!

TO
ALLIGATOR
FARM

MOVE
UP!!

STANDARD
AFRICAN BRANDS INC.

AFRICAN
EXPRESS

DUHH... YEP THERE AINT MANY OF US ALLIGATORS LEFT... DUHH... IN THIS PART O' THE WORLD, AND YET THOSE OF US WHO ARE LEFT ARE **RUTHLESSLY EXPLOITED... DUHH LEAVE ME TELL YOU...**

TIME WUZ WHEN A FELLER COULD SNUGGLE IN THE MUD AND SLEEP ALL DAY... BUT THAT WAS WAS 'AFORE **SNAGG DEBBIN AND HIS WIFE **ICE DEBBIN****

HERE YOU ARE MR. DEBBIN! YOU NOW OWN THE DEED TO THE **EAST AFRICA ALLIGATOR FARM... BUT, FRANKLY, WHY YOU'D WANT 22 ACRES OF **JUNGLE SWAMP** IS BEYOND ME.**

OH.... I'M JUST A LI'L SCOUT NOW **BEAT IT, JEEFER !!**

WELL, ICE... IT'S ALL OURS!! THE GREATEST LI'L HIDEOUT IN THE WORLD!

SIX MONTHS IN HERE, AND THAT **CAIRO BANK JOB SHOULD BE FORGOTTEN!**

SO... DEBBIN AND HIS WIFE LEFT US ALONE AND LIVED A **DUHH QUIET, PEACEFUL, NORMAL SWAMP-LIFE... THAT IS, UNTIL MR **DANK** SHOWED UP...**

WHO ARE YOU ??

LAMPY DANK, SIR!.. THE NEW ENGLAND DANKS, Y'KNOW ...I OWN A PIECE OF PROPERTY ACROSS THE BASIN AND I HEARD THERE WERE **FELLOW AMERICANS LIVING HERE.. ...SO...**

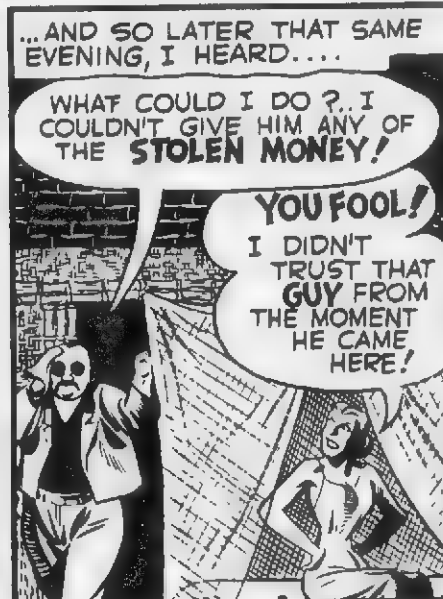
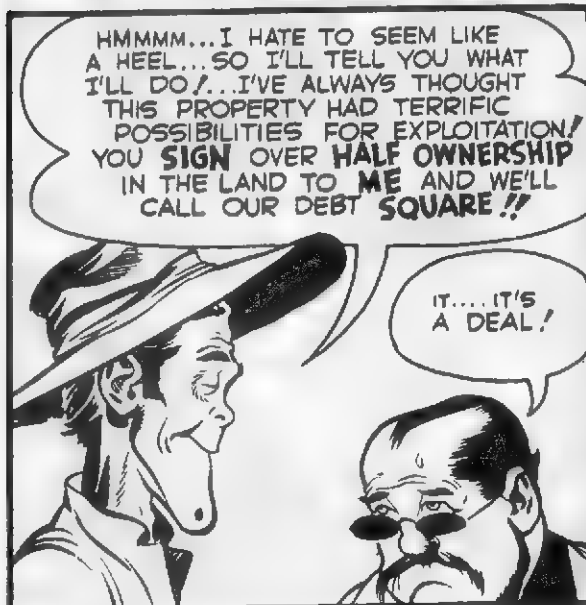
GLAD Y'CAMEDANK! IT DOES GET PRETTY LONELY OUT HERE!.. ALWAYS GLAD T' HAVE SOMEONE T' TALK TO!

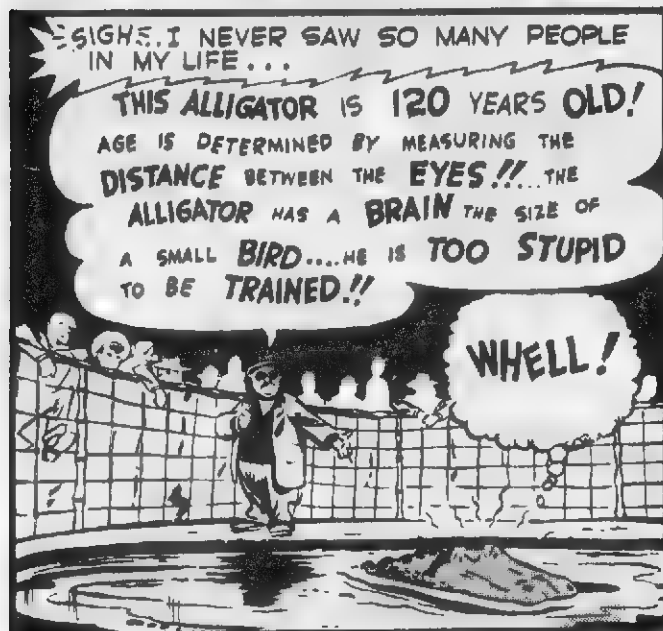
GOOD! I C'N SEE, DEBBIN, THAT THIS WILL LEAD TO A **PLEASANT ASSOCIATION!**

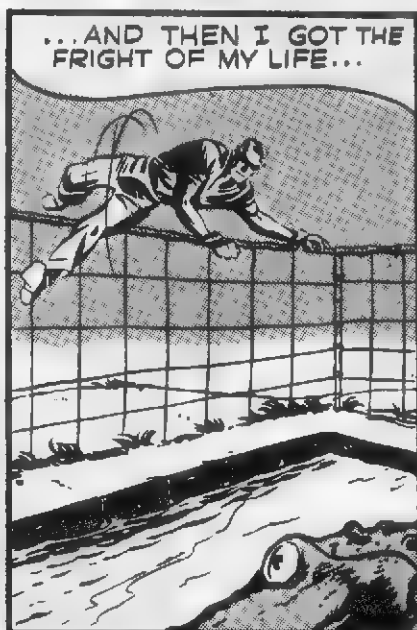
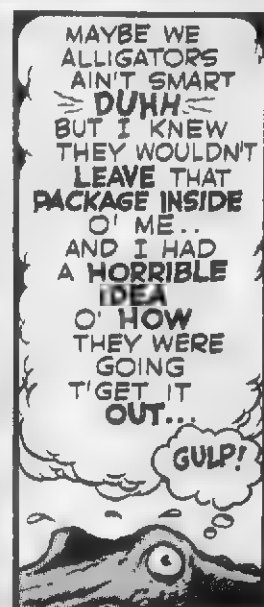
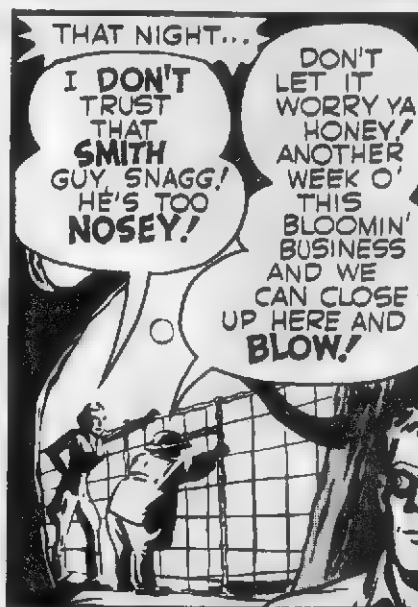
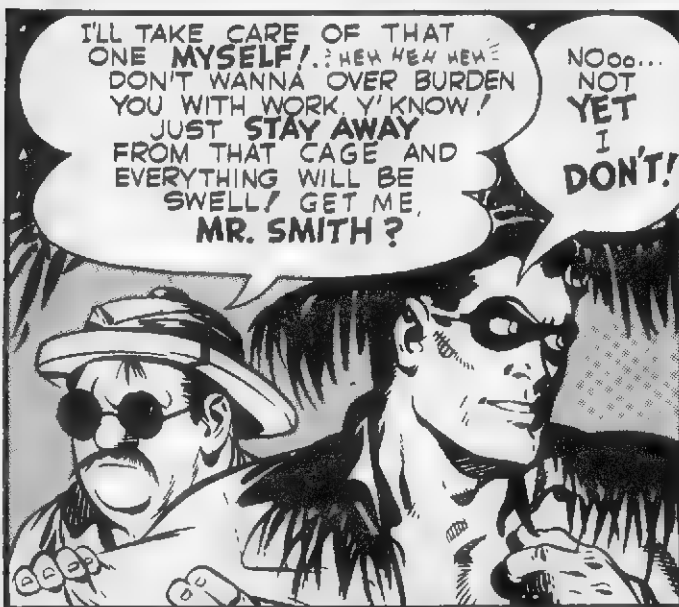
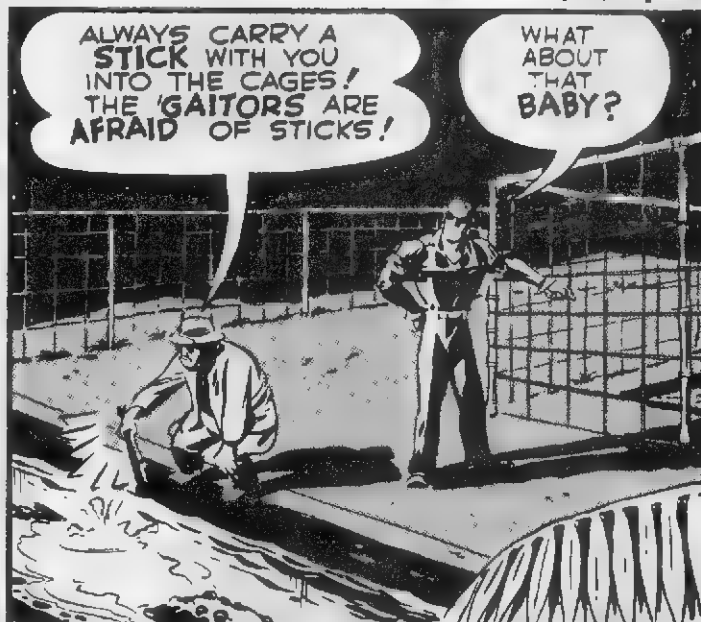
**THEN THE TOMFOOLERY STARTED... EV'RY NIGHT DEBBIN AND DANK WOULD SIT ON THE PATIO AND-
-PICK-
-UP-
-AND-
-PUT-
-DOWN-
SILLY LOOKING HUNKS OF CARDBOARD... DUH PRETTY SILLY, IF Y'ASK ME...**

GIN?

THAT'S FOUR HUNDRED BUCKS I'M IN THE HOLE TO YOU, DANK!

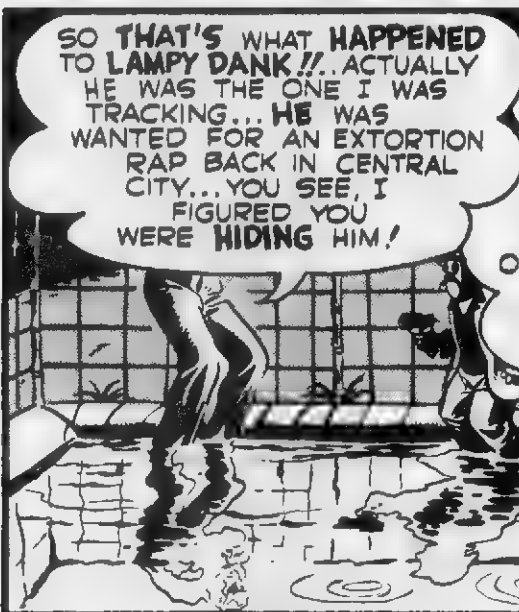






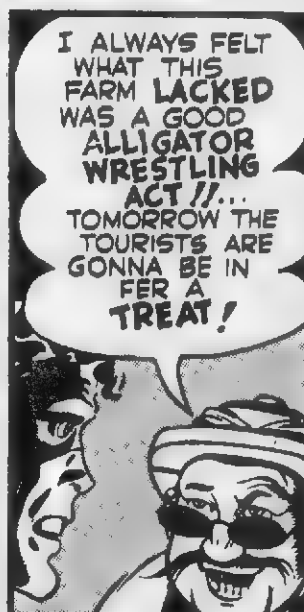


INTERESTIN'
HOW A COP
WILL **ALWEEZ**
SHOW HIS
HAND IF
YA **WAIT**
LONG
ENOUGH!
EH, SMITH
?!



SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED
TO **LAMPY DANK** !?. ACTUALLY
HE WAS THE ONE I WAS
TRACKING... HE WAS
WANTED FOR AN EXTORTION
RAP BACK IN CENTRAL
CITY... YOU SEE, I
FIGURED YOU
WERE **HIDING HIM** !

DANK
FOUND OUT
TOO MUCH..
JUST
LIKE
YOU ! BUT
I **AINT**
GONNA
SHOOT YOU!
OH NO... I
GOT A
BETTER
IDEA !



I ALWAYS FELT
WHAT THIS
FARM **LACKED**
WAS A GOOD
ALLIGATOR
WRESTLING
ACT !...
TOMORROW THE
TOURISTS ARE
GONNA BE IN
FER A
TREAT !

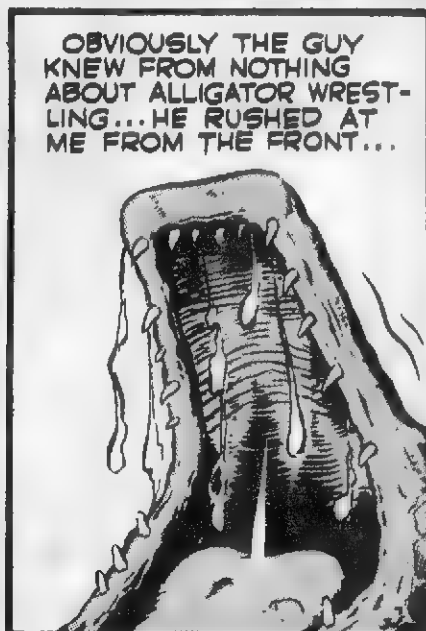


THE NEXT DAY THE
LARGEST TOURIST
TURNOUT YET, CAME
TO THE FARM...

AND NOW FOLKS...
OUR NEWEST FEATURE
ALLIGATORRR...
WRESTLING !!



REMEMBER, **COPPER**. THIS
GUN IS ON YOU AT ALL
TIMES !.. **GET IN THERE** !



OBVIOUSLY THE GUY
KNEW FROM NOTHING
ABOUT **ALLIGATOR** **WRESTLING**... HE RUSHED AT
ME FROM THE FRONT...

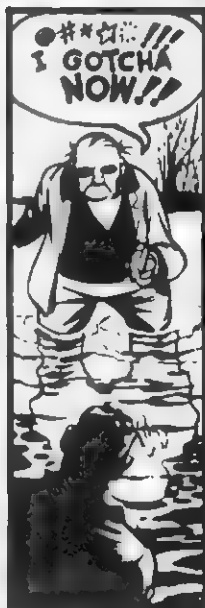




IT WAS AN EASY HOLD T' BREAK, BUT I MADE OUT LIKE I WAS IN TROUBLE...



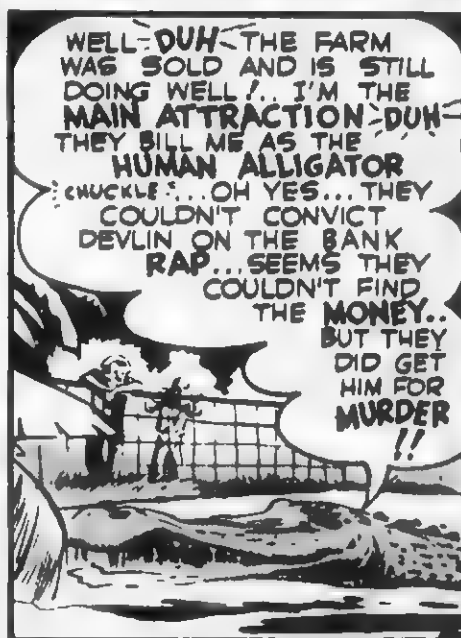
...BECAUSE THAT RAT, DEBBIN WAS SNEAKIN' UP WID A ROD.. I DON'T LIKE SNEAKY RATS...



PHEW- LET'S GO, DEBBIN! IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR ANIMAL ACT BACKFIRED !!

I NEVER SAW A 'GATOR ACT THAT WAY IN MY LIFE... IT WAS ALMOST HUMAN !!

BURP



WELL- DUH- THE FARM WAS SOLD AND IS STILL DOING WELL! I'M THE MAIN ATTRACTION- DUH- THEY BILL ME AS THE HUMAN ALLIGATOR. CHUCKLE... OH YES... THEY COULDN'T CONVICT DEVLIN ON THE BANK RAP... SEEMS THEY COULDN'T FIND THE MONEY.. BUT THEY DID GET HIM FOR MURDER !!

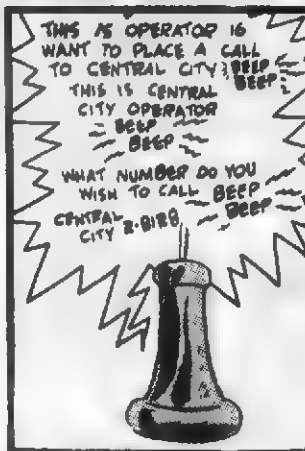
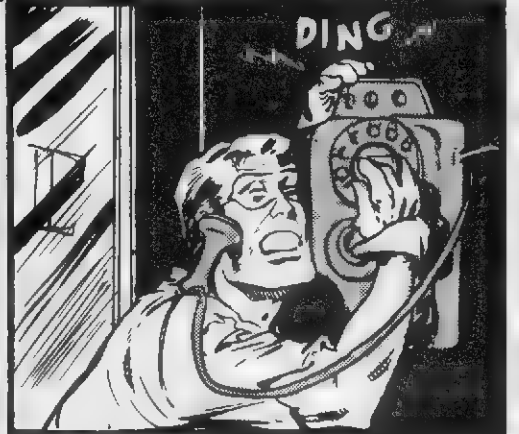
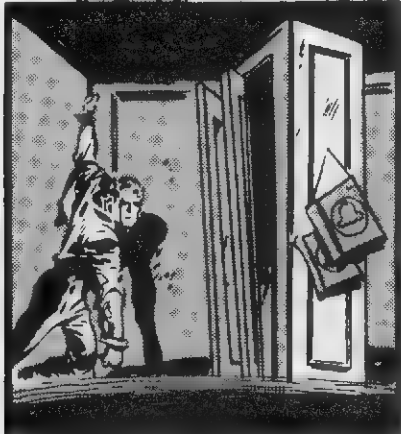


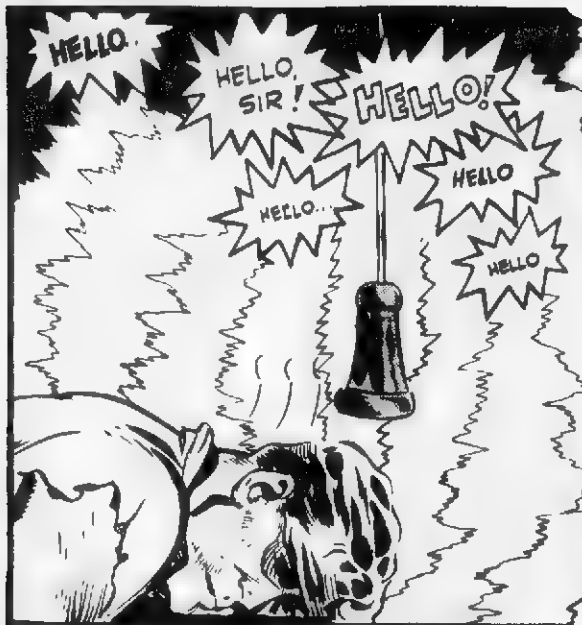
WHAT ?? HOW COME I SPEAK ENGLISH ?? WELL... I DON'T... ... IT MUST BE THAT YOU SPEAK ALLIGATOR.. DUH... SO LONG!

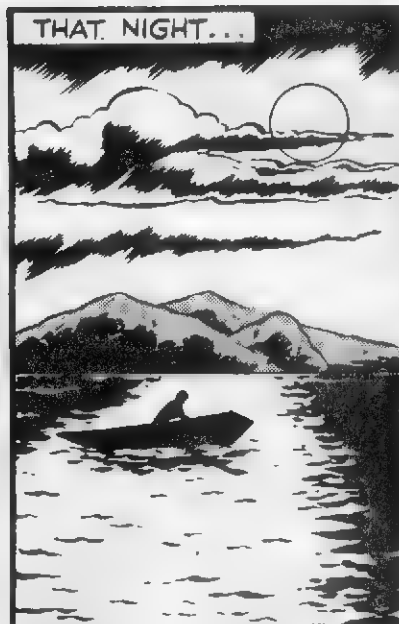
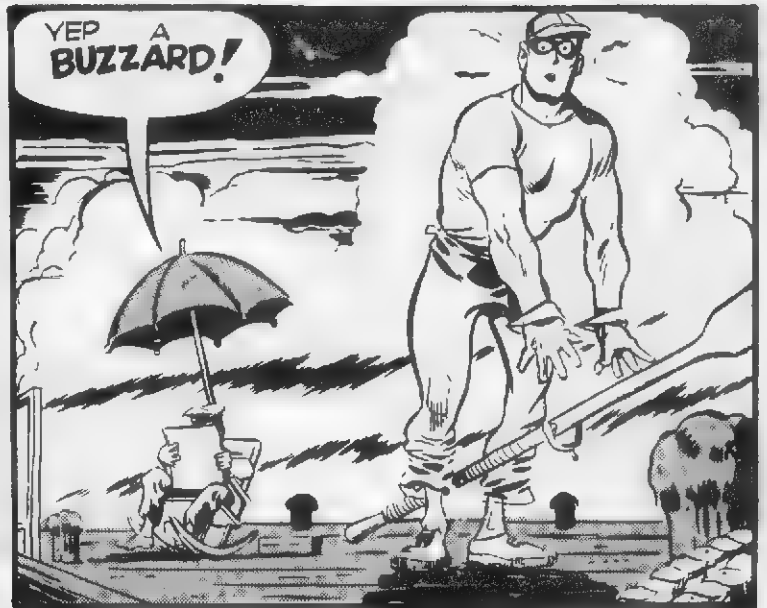
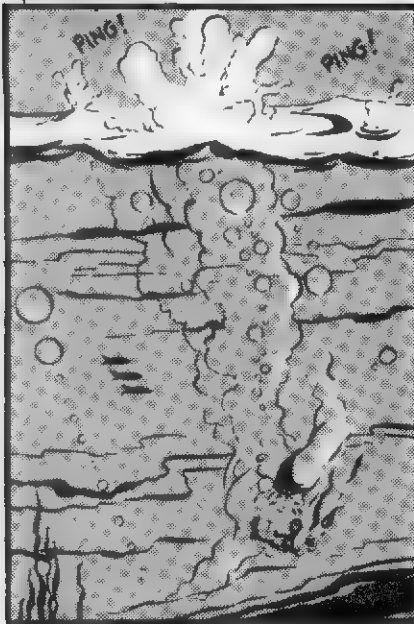


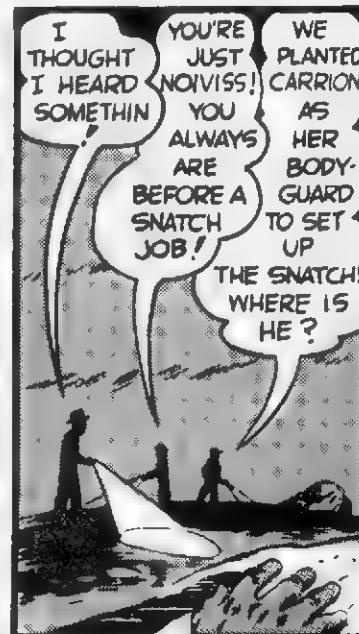
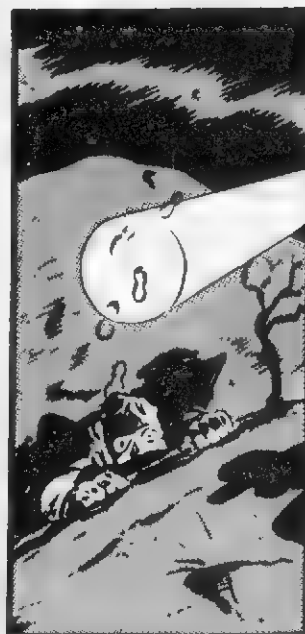
THE SPIRIT

BY WILL EISNER















...THEN SOMEHOW I WAS IN THE MOTOR LAUNCH, THE LAUNCH FROM WHICH CARRION HAD FIRED AT ME.



WHERE'S MY BOAT? Y'BETTER BRING BACK MY BOAT OR I'LL CHARGE YE FER IT!

HELLO!
HELLO!
HELLO!



HERE HE IS! HEY...THIS IS THE SPIRIT!!

YES, ISN'T HE WONDERFUL?



SPIRIT, THE COAST GUARD PUT OUT THE FIRE AND THEY CAUGHT THOSE AWFUL MEN... SPIRIT, YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME!

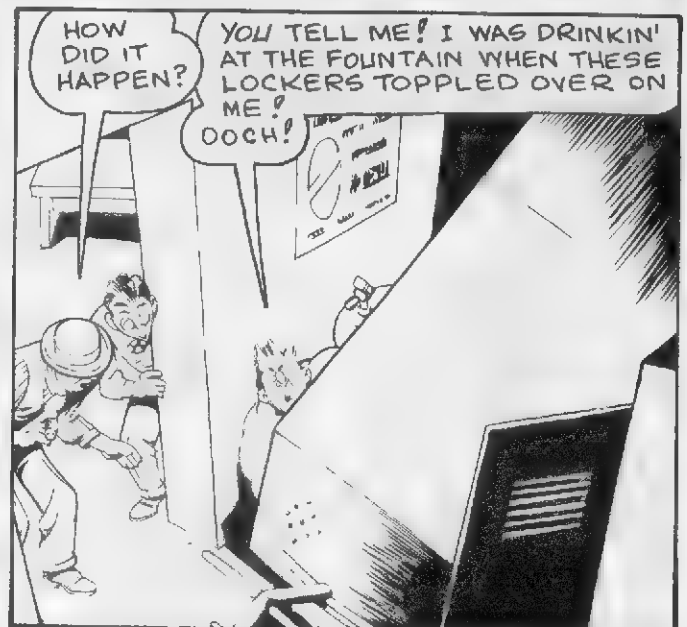
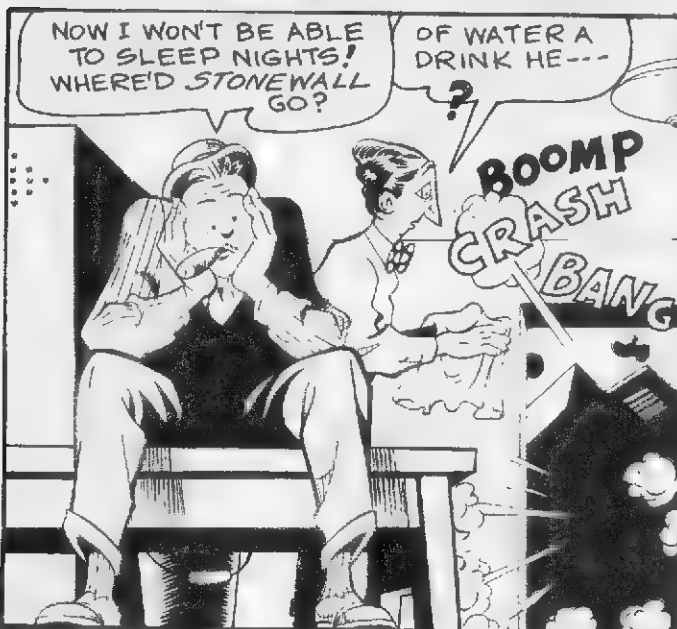
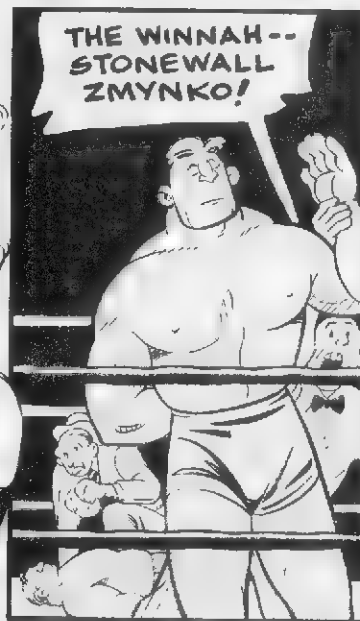
DON'T WORRY, MISSY!! ONCE WE GET HIM TO A DOC HE'LL BE ABLE TO LISTEN! WHAT THIS GUY NEEDS IS A VACATION!

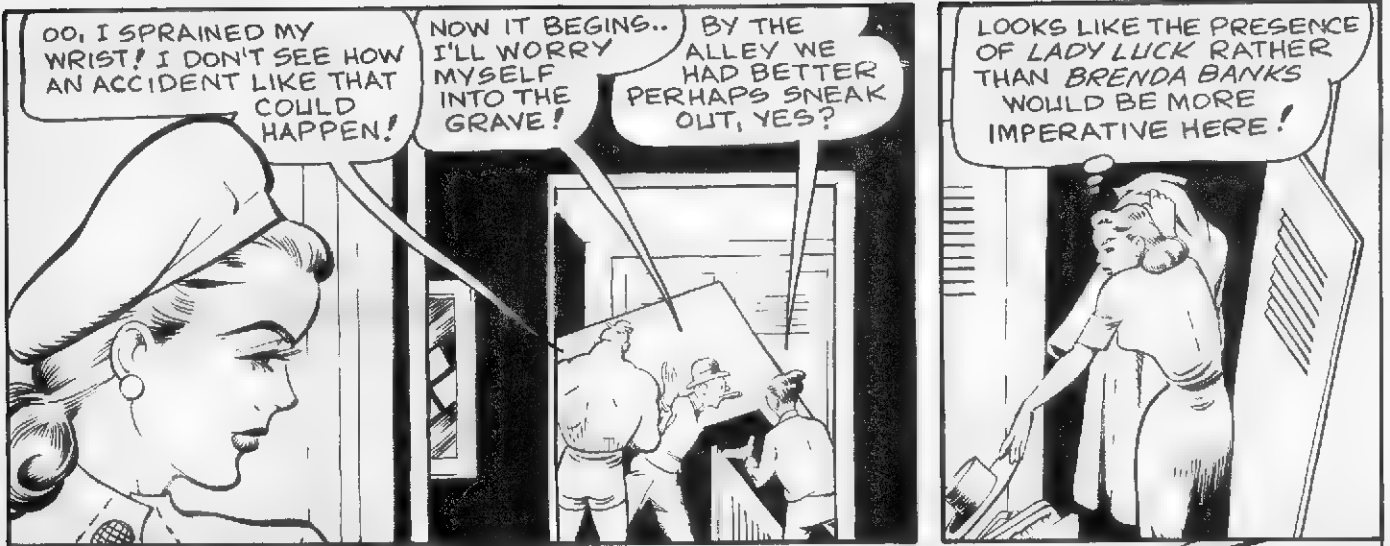
HELLO!
HELLO!
HELLO!



LADY LUCK

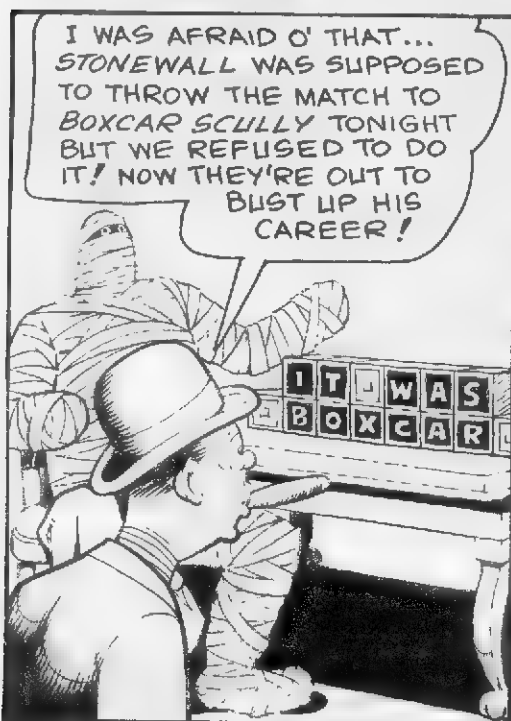
By Klaus Nordling







WE'D BETTER GO BREAK THE NEWS TO THEM!





GOLLY! WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION OVER AT THE ZMYNKO'S?



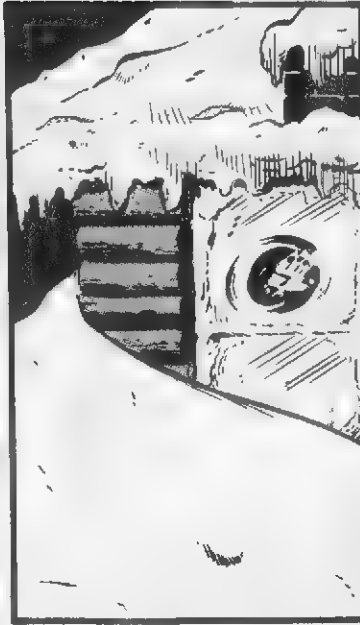
"EIGHT YEAR OLD ZMYNKO EMULATES DAD-- FLATTENS CONTENDER FOR SECOND DEFEAT OF NIGHT!"

PLEASE, BOYS-- THAT'LL QUEER MY GRAPPLER'S CAREER FOR GOOD!



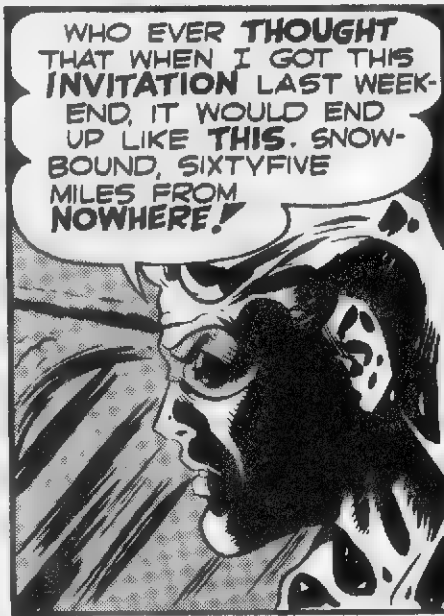
I, TOO, MUST BE-- BRENDA BANKS WAS I SUPPOSED FROM THE ARENA TO ESCORT! TCH! NOW HAVE I YOU!





IT'S
STOPPED
SNOWING
AT LAST!

ELLEN? SAND?
OH, I FORGOT!



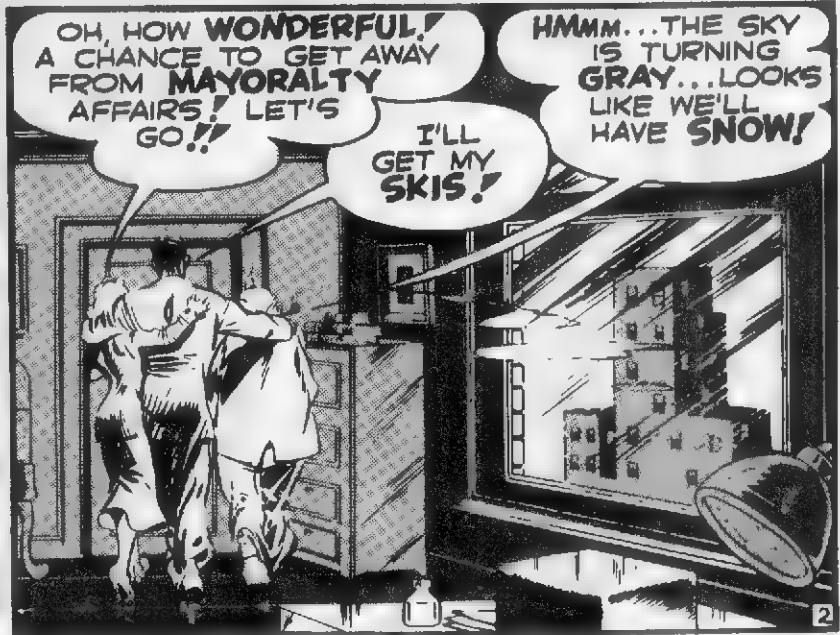
THEY'RE ASLEEP!
YES, LET THEM SLEEP
WHILE THEY CAN. IT
WILL BE SOME
TIME BEFORE WE
CAN GET OUT
OF THIS MESS!

WHO EVER THOUGHT
THAT WHEN I GOT THIS
INVITATION LAST WEEK-
END, IT WOULD END
UP LIKE THIS. SNOW-
BOUND, SIXTYFIVE
MILES FROM
NOWHERE!

YES, THAT INVITATION... THAT
BLASTED INVITATION!

WHO
IS IT
FROM,
SPIRIT?

OH, OH!
MAYBE I
SHOULDN'T
OPEN IT.. IT'S
FROM DARLING
O'SHEA! SHE
ALWAYS BRINGS
ME GRIEF!



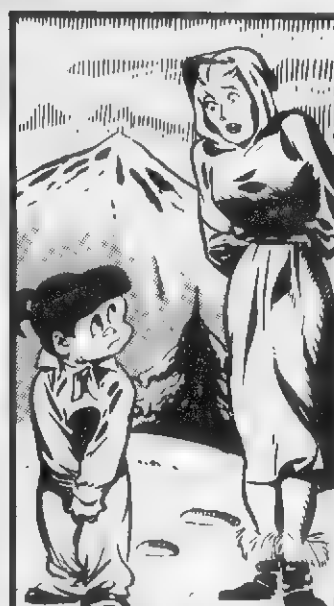
WELL, WELL, THE
RICHEST LITTLE
GIRL IN THE WORLD.
WHAT DOES SHE
HAVE TO SAY
FOR HERSELF?

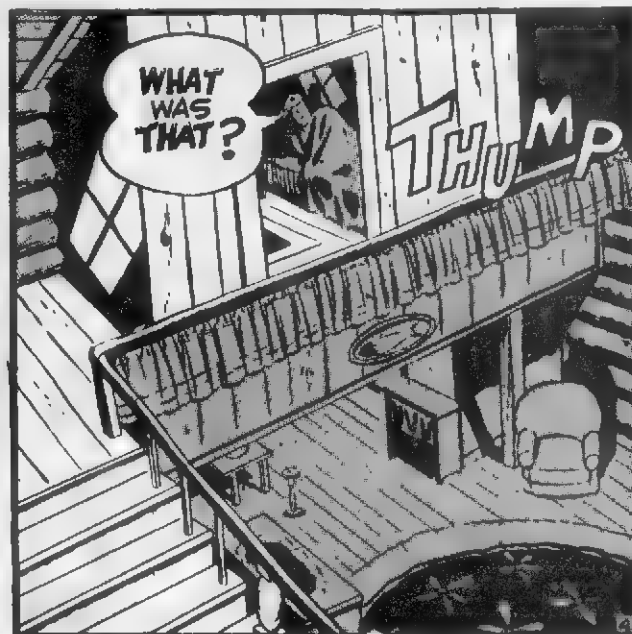
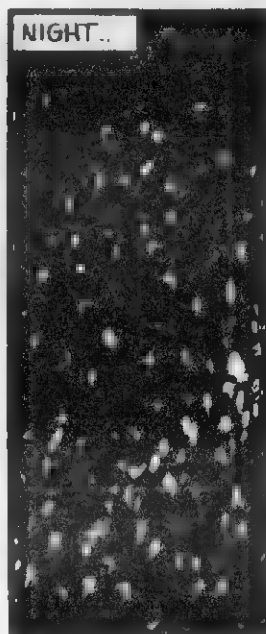
THIS TIME
IT'S FRIENDLY,
TO YOU
DOLAN
AND ME TO
SPEND THE
WEEKEND AT
HER MOUNTAIN
RESORT!

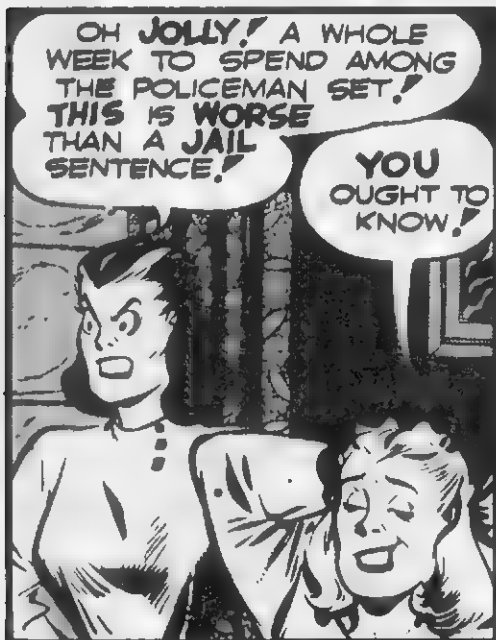
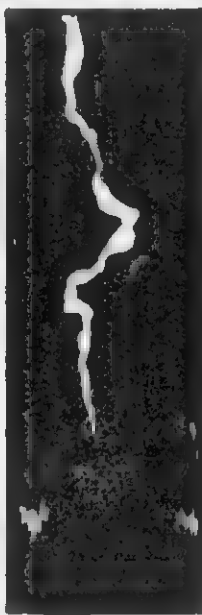
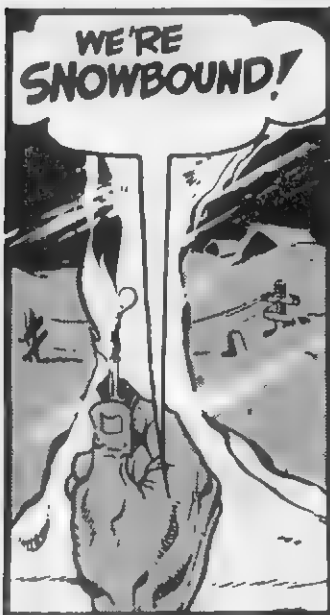
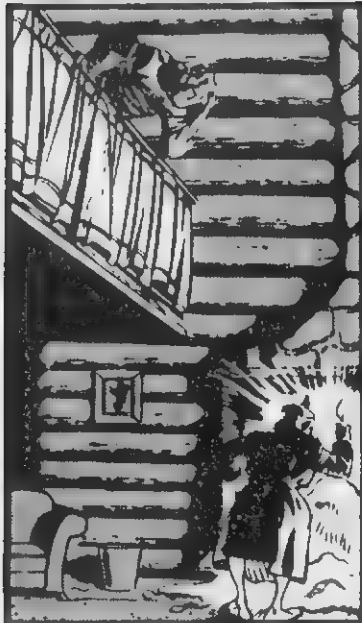
OH, HOW WONDERFUL!
A CHANCE TO GET AWAY
FROM MAYORALTY
AFFAIRS! LET'S
GO!!

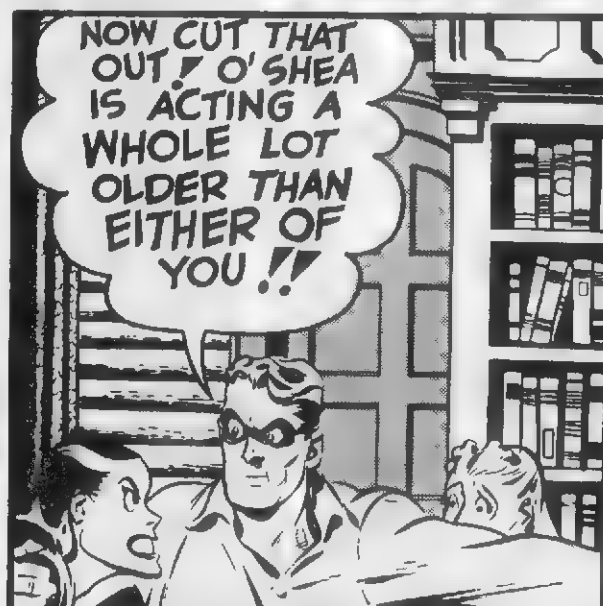
I'LL
GET MY
SKIS!

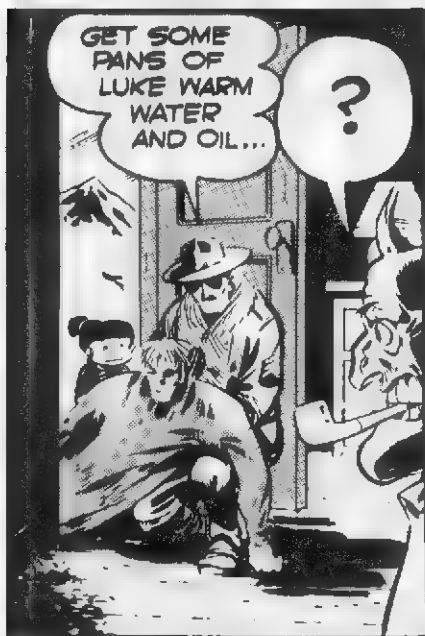
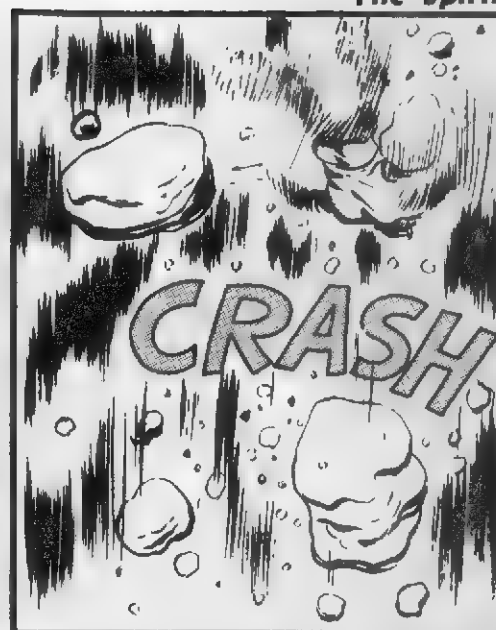
HMMM... THE SKY
IS TURNING
GRAY... LOOKS
LIKE WE'LL
HAVE SNOW!















THE MISTAKE WE HAVE ALWAYS MADE IS TRYING THE SIMPLEST WAYS TO GET RID OF THE SPIRIT! PERHAPS THE BEST WAY IS THE SNEAKY-WAY... OR DESTROYING HIS WILL TO FIGHT CRIME!

HUH?

HOW'RE YOU GOIN' TO DESTROY HIS WILL?

LET US GET THE SPIRIT MARRIED TO ELLEN DOLAN!

DO YOU THINK THAT ONCE HE IS LEADING THE CONTENTED LIFE OF A FAMILY MAN THAT HE'LL BE AS WILLING TO RISK LIFE AND LIMB AGAINST CRIME AS HE NOW DOES!

HUH?

NO! HE'LL LOSE INTEREST IN CRIME FIGHTING! HE WILL HAVE LOST HIS EFFECTIVENESS! YOU GUYS KNOW WHAT MARRIAGE DOES TO A MAN!

YEAH!

I KNOW!

ME TOO!

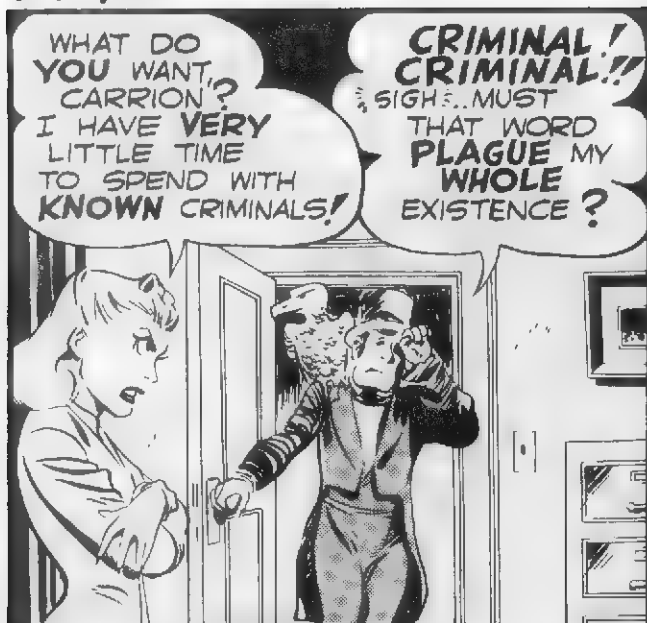
FINE! BUT HOW DO WE GO ABOUT GETTING HIM MARRIED?

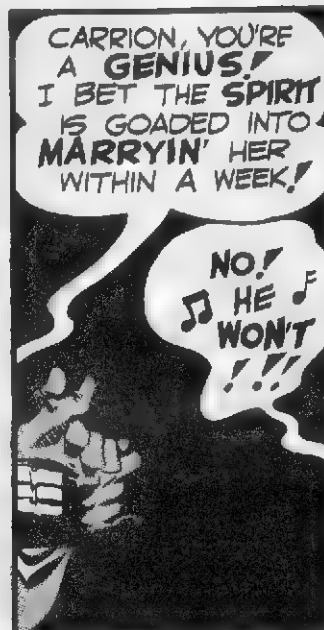
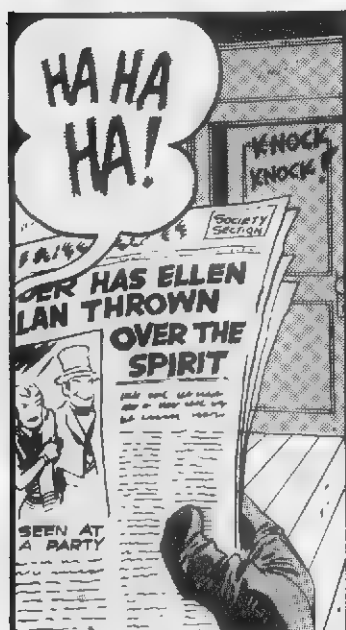
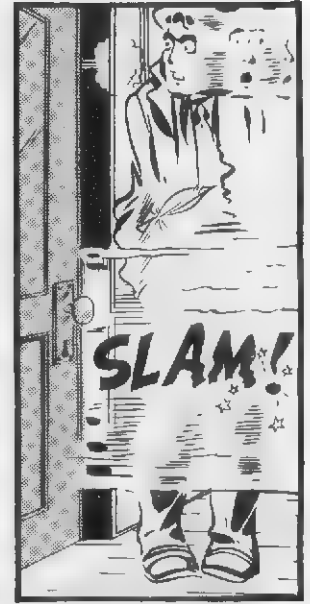
ALL THE SPIRIT NEEDS IS A LITTLE PRODDING! I, GENTLEMEN, WILL PROVIDE THAT PRODDING!

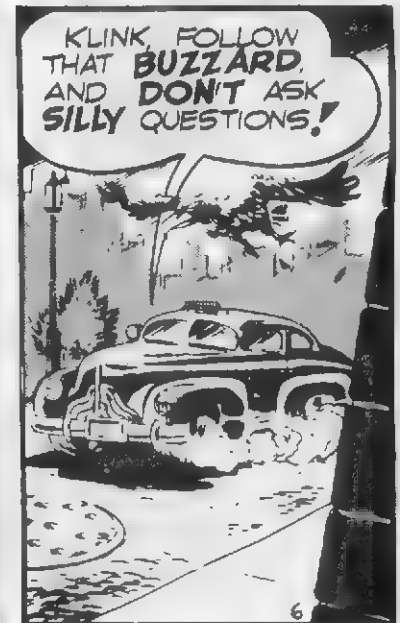
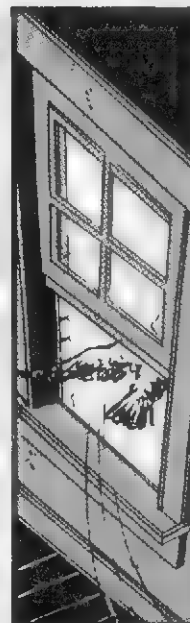
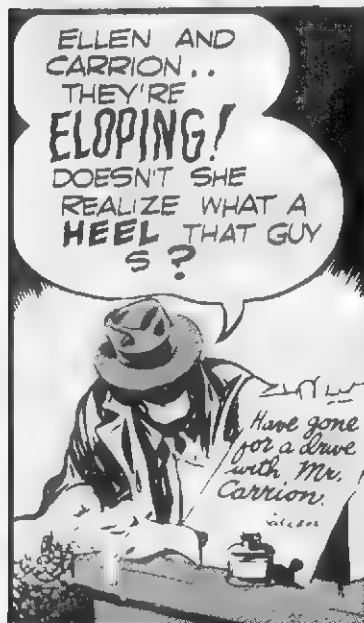
THAT AFTERNOON...

A MR CARRION TO SEE YOU, MAYOR ELLEN DOLAN!

THAT CROOK! NOW WHAT COULD HE WANT?





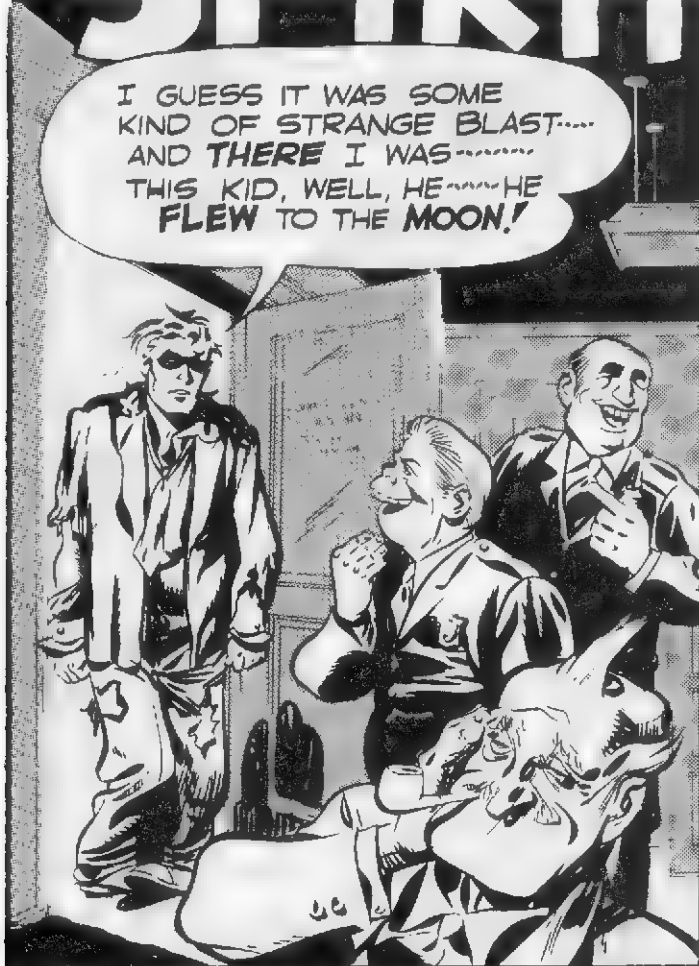




THE SPIRIT

BY
Will
EISNER

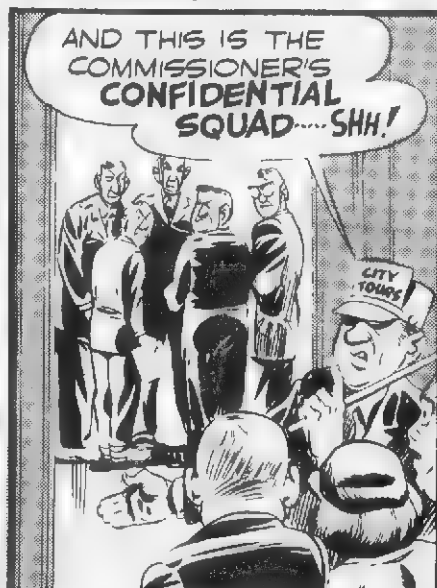
NO ONE BELIEVED
THE SPIRIT...BUT
HERE ARE THE FACTS



Attention, dear reader, you doubtless have met Mr. Carrion, the villian, and Julia his pet. But in this fine portrait, another we see Fantastically clever beyond you or me. It's Carrion's nephew, a genius of sorts Who plagues the police with his devilish sports The nephew would get such swell gifts from dear unc, Dead reptiles, shrunk heads and interesting junk. The evil pair dwelt amidst garbage and welter Where nobody ventured—**THIS** was their shelter.



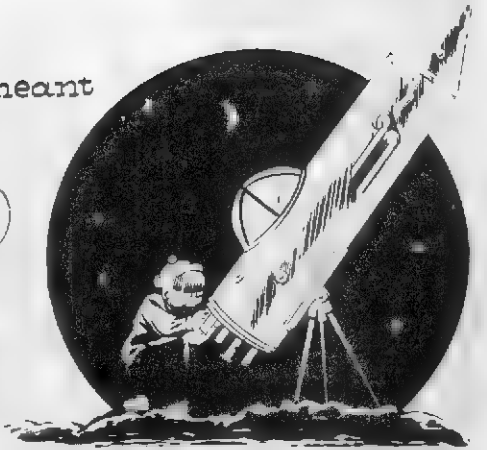
THIS IS THE WAY YOU HEARD IT.....



BUT HERE ARE THE FACTS.....

Young Ghou had a brain scientifically bent
 When he spoke it was hard to know what he meant
 He solved knotty problem in nuclear fission
 Which even alarmed the Atomic Commission.

PROFESSOR ZWEISTEIN?
 THIS IS GHOUL! $VR^2 + X^2 = VR^2$
 $+ 0.02510 \cdot h^2 LP + \Omega = RVKL$



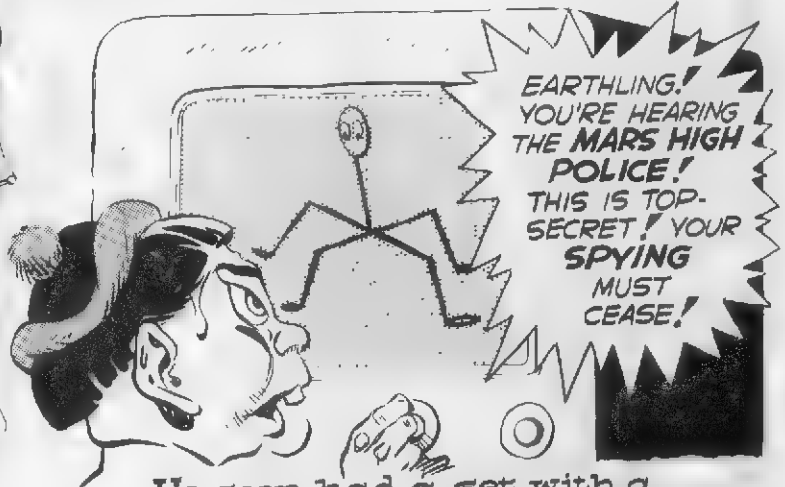
But his biggest delight
 Was in phone conversation
 With disastrous alarms
 To frighten the nation

With sprockets and gears
 and transmissions from car
 Ghou even constructed
 a rocket to Mars.

Till everyone wearied of those horrid stunts
 And ignored him and called him a pest and a dunce.



Once Carrion brought home
 a frayed book of instruction
 And old TV parts for young
 Ghou's construction....



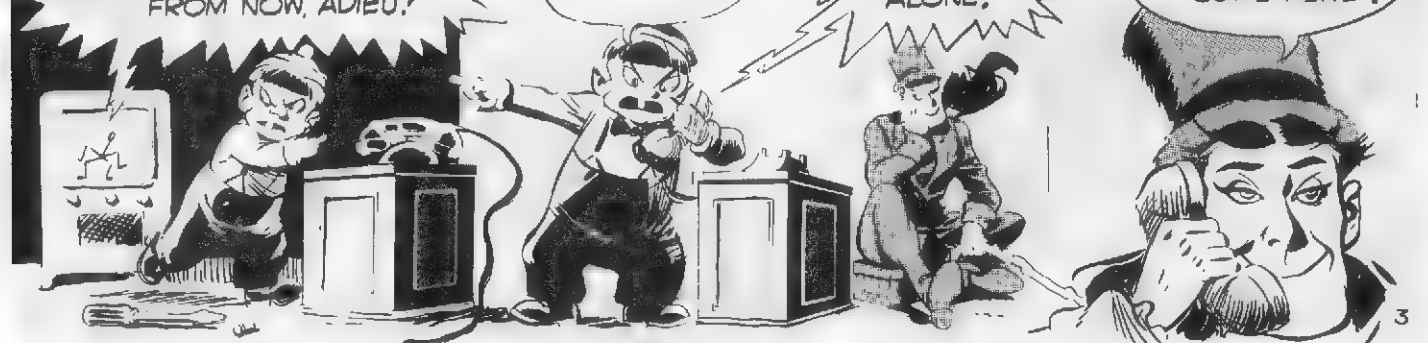
He soon had a set with a
 far-reaching pulse...
 It worked like greased magic,
 with monstrous results!

EARTH MUST NOT KNOW OF
 OUR ACTIONS JUST YET...
 WE'RE GOING TO LIQUIDATE
 YOUR TV SET!
 WE'RE PROPELLING A COSMIC
 EXPLOSION TOWARD YOU...
 2 HOURS AND 12 MINUTES
 FROM NOW, ADIEU!

I JUST HEARD
 THE MARTIANS
 ON CHANNEL 15
 I WANT
 PROTECTION
 A BLAST IS
 FORESEEN!

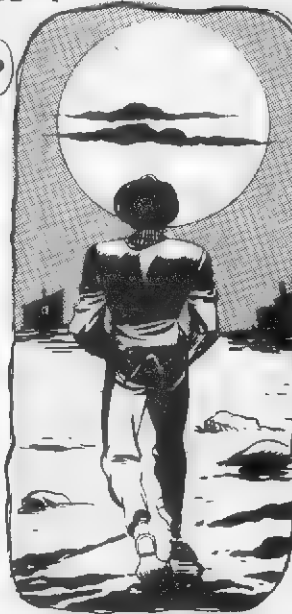
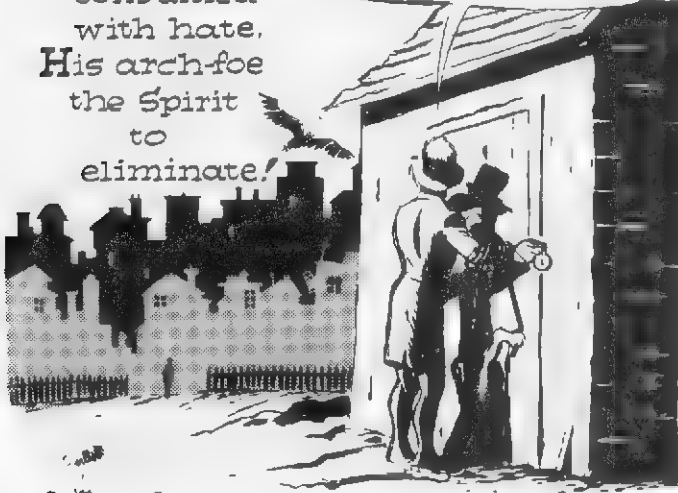
LISTEN, YOUNG
 FELLA, PLEASE
 GET OFF THE
 PHONE!
 ALL WE WANT
 NOW IS TO
 LEAVE US
 ALONE!

'LO, SPIRIT? IT'S
 CARRION! THE
 MARTIANS ARE
 NEAR!
 IF YOU WANT ME
 TO PROVE IT.
 WHY DON'T YOU
 COME HERE?



An idea strikes Carrion consumed with hate. His arch-foe the Spirit to eliminate!

ATTAGIRL, JULIA, DOES HE APPROACH?



NOBODY HOME? WHERE'S THAT CARRION ROACH?



ATTENTION! MARS CALLING! ONE MINUTE TO GO!

WELL, I'LL BE DOGGONED! THEN IT IS REALLY SO!



WE'RE LOCKED IN! HEY, CARRION, IS THAT YOU OUT THERE?

HA HA HA HA! THAT'S RIGHT SPIRIT! TOODLEOO! SAY A PRAYER!

38 SECONDS
37 SECONDS
36 SECONDS



But Ghoul was quite desperate to save his machines. Let's scam, said the Spirit, or we're smithereens.

OH GHOUL! WHERE ARE YOU? RUN AWAY WHERE IT'S SAFE!



IN HERE, MR. CARRION! WOULD YOU DARE SAVE THE WAIF?

29 SECONDS
28
27
26



THIS IS THE WAY YOU HEARD IT....

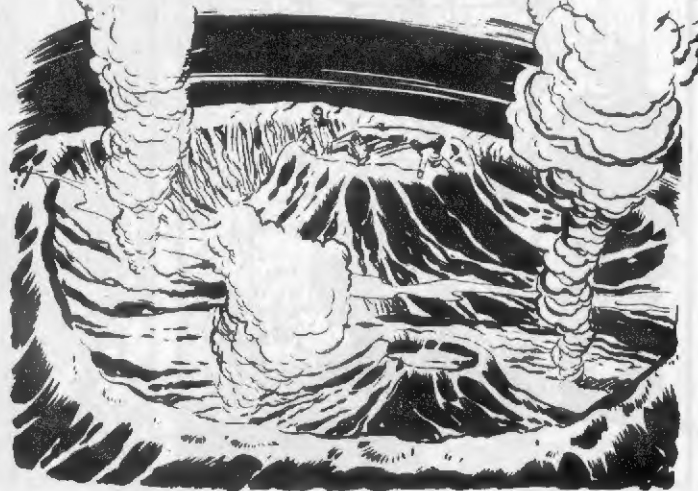


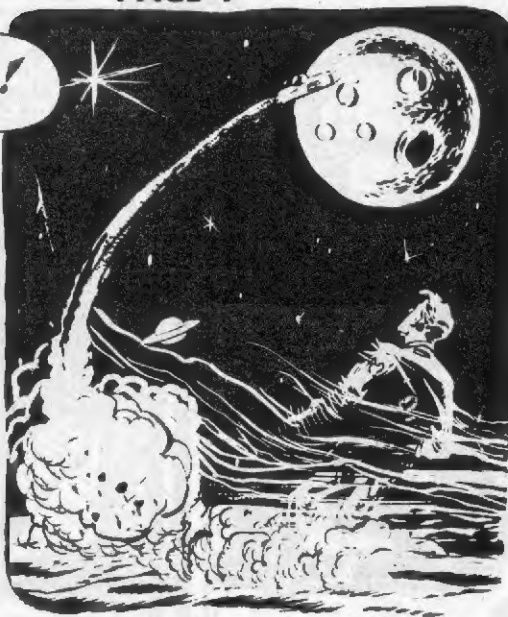
BUT HERE ARE THE FACTS.....





'Twas the last that was heard on Channel 15
The Martians had come and left, without being seen.

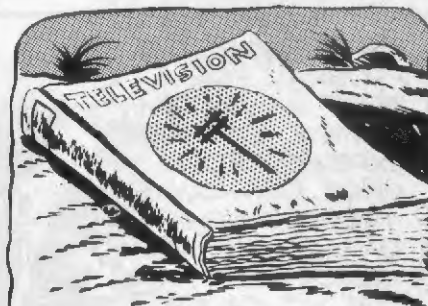




BUT THE COLD FACTS REMAIN.....



Midst refuse and litter and ashes of coal
Where once was a dwelling there now is a hole.
It makes no great difference, though it stirred up a lot
So what can you prove in an old garbage plot?



But if you will probe
in the muck and mire
Properly dressed in
your oldest attire—
There you'll discover
an instruction book.
Honest, it's there...
you've only to look!

COMIX

If you enjoy reading **THE SPIRIT**, chances are you'll enjoy the following books by many of the foremost contemporary cartoonists. . .

1. **ARTISTIC COMICS.** A fat 56-page comic crammed with doodles, ideas, and drawings culled from the "secret sketch-books" of Robert Crumb. \$1.
2. **BAREFOOTZ No. 1.** A collection of comics by Howard Cruse, whom Mark Estren (author of *A History of Underground Comics*) called "The most refreshing of the underground cartoonists." A very funny book. Just 75 cents.
3. **BAREFOOTZ No. 2.** All NEW comix by Cruse, "One of the brightest lights ever to shine in the underground,"—columnists Don & Maggie Thompson. Only 75 cents.
4. **BIZARRE SEX No. 5.** An outrageous assortment of material by Richard Corben, Joel Beck, Steve Stiles, Robert Crumb, Sharon Rudhal, Charles Dallas, and others. You must be 18. \$1.
5. **BIZARRE SEX No. 6.** Corben cover and contributions from Richards, Erling, Beck, Stiles, and others. Now. \$1.25. You must be 18 to order.
6. **COMPLEAT FART.** Everything you wanted to know about bodily emissions, drawn by a very funny woman, Lee Marrs. "In these exhausted, somewhat decadent times, a true Rabelaisian humor is more than welcome; nearly miraculous. She is really superb."—Gus Blaisdell. \$1. You must be 18.
7. **COMIX BOOK No. 4.** The result of a mixed marriage between Stan Lee's Marvel Comics and Denis Kitchen's Krupp Comics. A fat 68-page book with contributors like Leslie Cabarga, Howard Cruse, Kim Deitch, Justin Green, Willy Murphy, John Pound, Trina, Skip Williamson, Basil Wolverton, and many others. Only \$1.
8. **COMIX BOOK No. 5.** The "farewell issue." Howard Zimmerman, in *Rock Scene*, said "It's tight, fast-reading, and a fabulous combination of different heads and styles. It would have been a real coup for Marvel to have been associated with this issue; it's too bad they have spurned their young lover." Still \$1.
9. **CORPORATE CRIME.** All TRUE stories by 15 artists. A widely-praised book that provides education in an entertaining format. Contributors include Greg Irons, Trina, Leonard Rifas, Kim Deitch, Beck Wilson, R. Diggs, and others. A "comic" book that will make you think. \$1.
10. **DUTCH TREAT.** An anthology of the best cartoonists in art-rich Holland. Includes great homage to Carl Barks' ducks by Evert Geradts. \$1.

11. **FEVER DREAMS.** Classic science-fiction story by Richard Corben and Jan Strnad. Also "Unicorn" by John Adkins Richardson. \$1.

12. **HOME GROWN FUNNIES.** Robert Crumb's epic "Whiteman meets Bigfoot." The best-selling comic in Krupp's history. Now in its 11th printing! May soon be a motion picture. Just 75 cents.

13. **JOEL BECK'S COMICS.** Considered by many to be the first underground cartoonist. This book collects Joel's earliest (now very rare) material, plus a new story offering the truth behind "Smoky the Bear." \$1.



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17. **PEOPLE'S COMICS.** Includes "Fritz the Cat, Superstar." Creator Robert Crumb kills off Fritz for good. Other good stories too. Just 75 cents.

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underground that started it all."—Howard Zimmerman. \$1.

19. **SNARF No. 7.** Cover by Art Spiegelman, with pieces from Kim Deitch, Joel Beck, Trina, Steve Stiles, Howard Cruse, and others. \$1.

20. **TRINA'S WOMEN.** A collection of Trina's own favorite stories. Includes *Panthea*, *Rosie the Riveter*, and "Lulu's Back in Town." 75 cents.

21. **XYZ COMICS.** "The last word in comics" from Robert Crumb. BoBo Belinski, Boingy Baxter, and much introspective material. 75 cents.

22. **CO-EVOLUTION QUARTERLY,** Summer 1977. Color Cover and inner story by Robert Crumb. And loads of important information from the Whole Earth Catalog people. Thick squareback, \$2.50.

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